

Beijing Normal University



# Newsletter

Autumn 2022 / Issue 12

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**Organized by:**

Office of International Exchange & Cooperation, Beijing Normal University

**Co-organized by:**

News Center, Beijing Normal University



# Newsletter

Autumn 2022 / Issue 12

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## Translator

TRANSN (BEIJING) INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY CO., LTD.

## Designer & Composition

DENG Yuehua, School of Design, Beijing Normal University, Zhuhai

XU Wei, School of Design, Beijing Normal University, Zhuhai

ZHENG Xiaohong, School of Design, Beijing Normal University, Zhuhai

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## Contact Us

Address: Office of International Exchange & Cooperation

Beijing Normal University, 100875 Beijing, P.R. China

Phone: (+86) 10-5880-7170

Fax: (+86) 10-5880-0823

Email: bnunewsletter@bnu.edu.cn

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## 习近平回信勉励北京师范大学“优师计划”师范生

到祖国和人民最需要的地方去  
努力成为党和人民满意的“四有”好老师

# Chinese President XI Jinping Encourages Students of Beijing Normal University Attending Outstanding Teachers Program

Article source: Xinhua News Agency | Release date: 2022-09-08

Xinhua News Agency, Beijing, September 8: On September 7, Chinese President XI Jinping replied to a letter from students of Beijing Normal University attending the Outstanding Teachers Program, expressing earnest expectations on such students and extending congratulations and best wishes to all faculty members, students and alumni of the Beijing Normal University and greetings to teachers across the country ahead of the 120<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Beijing Normal University and the 38<sup>th</sup> Teachers' Day.

Chinese President XI Jinping said

in the reply that “Over the past year since you were enrolled in the program, through course study and offering teaching service in underdeveloped regions, you have enriched your knowledge, broadened your horizon and hardened the conviction of going down to serve at the grassroots. I am very glad to learn that.”

Chinese President XI Jinping pointed out that “Beijing Normal University, as the earliest modern teacher-training institution of higher learning in China, has cultivated a great number of outstanding teachers for the country. “I hope that you will carry forward

the university's motto ‘Learn, so as to instruct others; act, to serve as example to all’, waste no time and study hard, cultivate your moral character and improve your capabilities of teaching students both knowledge and the way of leading a rewarding life. I also hope that you will serve in places where the country and people need you the most, and work hard to become a qualified teacher with firm ideals and beliefs, moral sentiments, solid knowledge and benevolence so as to commit yourselves to nurturing a new generation of capable young people with moral grounding, intellectual ability, physical vigor, aesthetic sensibility and

work skills for the socialist cause.”

Since 2021, China has launched the “program for training outstanding teachers for service in underdeveloped areas in central and western regions” (referred to as the “Outstanding Teachers Program”), under which normal

universities directly under the Ministry of Education and local normal colleges would train about 10,000 teachers for service in primary and secondary schools in 832 counties emerged from poverty and along the land borders in central and western regions every year. Recently, the student representatives

of Beijing Normal University attending the Outstanding Teachers Program have written to Chinese President XI Jinping, reporting their learning gains since they were enrolled in the program and expressing their determination to offer teaching service in underdeveloped regions.

## Chinese President XI Jinping's Letter to Students of Beijing Normal University Attending Outstanding Teachers Program

*Dear students,*

*I have received your letter. Over the past year since you were enrolled in the program, through course study and offering teaching service in underdeveloped regions, you have enriched your knowledge, broadened your horizon and hardened the conviction of going down to serve at the grassroots. I am very glad to learn that. As Beijing Normal University celebrates its 120<sup>th</sup> anniversary, I would like to extend my warm congratulations and best wishes to all faculty members, students and alumni!*

*Beijing Normal University, as the earliest modern teacher-training institution of higher learning in China, has cultivated a great number of outstanding teachers for the country. I hope that you will carry forward the university's motto “Learn, so as to instruct others; act, to serve as example to all,” waste no time and study hard, cultivate your moral character and improve your capabilities of teaching students both knowledge and the way of leading a rewarding life. I also hope that you will serve in places where the country and people need you the most, and work hard to become a qualified teacher with firm ideals and beliefs, moral sentiments, solid knowledge and benevolence so as to commit yourselves to nurturing a new generation of capable young people with moral grounding, intellectual ability, physical vigor, aesthetic sensibility and work skills for the socialist cause.*

*Upon the arrival of Teachers' Day, I would like to wish all teachers across the country a happy festival!*

*Xi Jinping September 7, 2022*



# Beijing Normal University Holds the Opening Ceremony for 2022 Freshmen

Article source: Department of Student Affairs, Party Committee | Release date: 2022-09-13

On the morning of September 9, Beijing Normal University (BNU) Beijing Campus held the Opening Ceremony for 2022 Freshmen at the Qiu Jiduan Sports Center, with sub-venues at schools (departments) and Changping Campus. The ceremony was participated by school leaders such as Secretary of Party Committee CHENG Jianping, Deputy Secretary

of Party Committee and President MA Jun, Deputy Secretary of Party Committee and Secretary of Committee for Discipline Inspection SUN Hongpei, Vice Presidents ZHANG Kai and ZHOU Zuoyu, Deputy Secretary of Party Committee LI Xiaobing, Vice President TU Qingyun and Deputy Secretary of Party Committee WEI Wei, persons in charge of party

and government affairs in schools (departments) and representatives of 2022 freshmen at the main venue, persons in charge of student affairs in schools (departments), homeroom teachers of freshmen and 2022 freshmen on campus at sub-venues, and freshmen not on campus and their parents online. The ceremony was presided over by LI Xiaobing.



The ceremony kicked off with the majestic national anthem



CHENG Jianping read out Chinese President XI Jinping's letter to students of the Beijing Normal University attending the Outstanding Teachers Program, instructing freshmen to waste no time and study hard, cultivate moral character, improve capabilities of teaching students

both knowledge and the way of leading a rewarding life, serve in places where the country and people need them the most, and work hard to become a qualified teacher with firm ideals and beliefs, moral sentiments, solid knowledge and benevolence so as to commit themselves

to nurturing a new generation of capable young people with moral grounding, intellectual ability, physical vigor, aesthetic sensibility and work skills for the socialist cause.



MA Jun delivered a speech, welcoming and congratulating 2022 freshmen on behalf of all faculty members and students. MA Jun said that it is eternally memorable for all BNU people to receive Chinese President XI Jinping's letter to students of the Beijing Normal University attending the Outstanding Teachers Program on the occasion of the 120<sup>th</sup> anniversary of BNU. MA Jun hoped that freshmen could always keep in mind the spirits of Chinese President XI Jinping's important letter and speech on a qualified teacher with firm ideals and beliefs, moral sentiments, solid knowledge and benevolence, draw strong mental strength from the 120-year history and "red" heritage of BNU, strive to put into practice the tradition "patriotism, progress and pioneering spirit" and the motto "learn, so as to instruct others; act, to serve as example to all", insist on the concept "pursue studies, cultivate moral character and benefiting others", improve moral character, and enhance the

sense of mission of devotion to serve the country; study hard and cultivate innovative thinking; adhere to the unity of knowledge and action, cultivate the down-to-earth attitude, constantly surpass and improve themselves, and strive to grow into a new generation of capable young people with moral grounding, intellectual ability, physical vigor, aesthetic sensibility and work skills for the socialist cause.



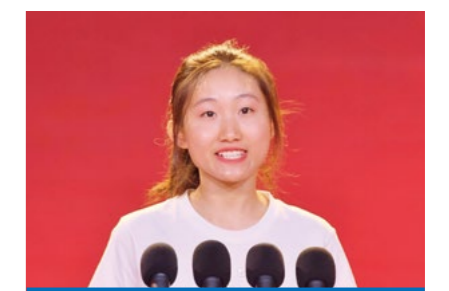
Deputy Secretary of Party Committee LI Xiaobing presided over the opening ceremony



Professor CHEN Yinghe of Faculty of Psychology spoke on behalf of teachers and students. She shared her experience and insight of studying and teaching in BNU, hoping that students can improve their thinking ability, cultivate their volitional quality, set up high aspirations, uphold the dedication spirit, and grow into a better self.

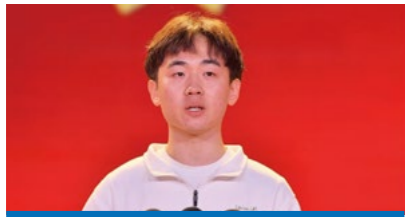


TONG Yao, a 2021 master's student from School of Marxism, spoke as a representative of students on campus. She shared her harvest of studying and growth in BNU with three key words, namely, "truth seeking", "earnest practice" and "inheritance", hoping that freshmen can keep in mind the instructions from Chinese President XI Jinping, inherit the 120-year red spirit of BNU, and shoulder the responsibilities and missions of youth in the new era.



GAO Jingtong, a 2022 bachelor's student from School of Chinese Language and Literature, spoke as a representative of undergraduate freshmen. She shared her experience in offering teaching service in underdeveloped regions, advocating that freshmen should waste no time and put into practice the original aspiration and mission of BNU people.





WANG Shizheng, a 2022 doctor's student from College of Life Sciences, spoke as a representative of postgraduate freshmen. He shared his scientific research experience in the tiger and leopard research team,

calling on everyone to seek truth and pragmatism, improve skills, make bold innovations, set up the idea for taking the lead, shoulder important responsibilities, repay society, and strive to be a promising youth.



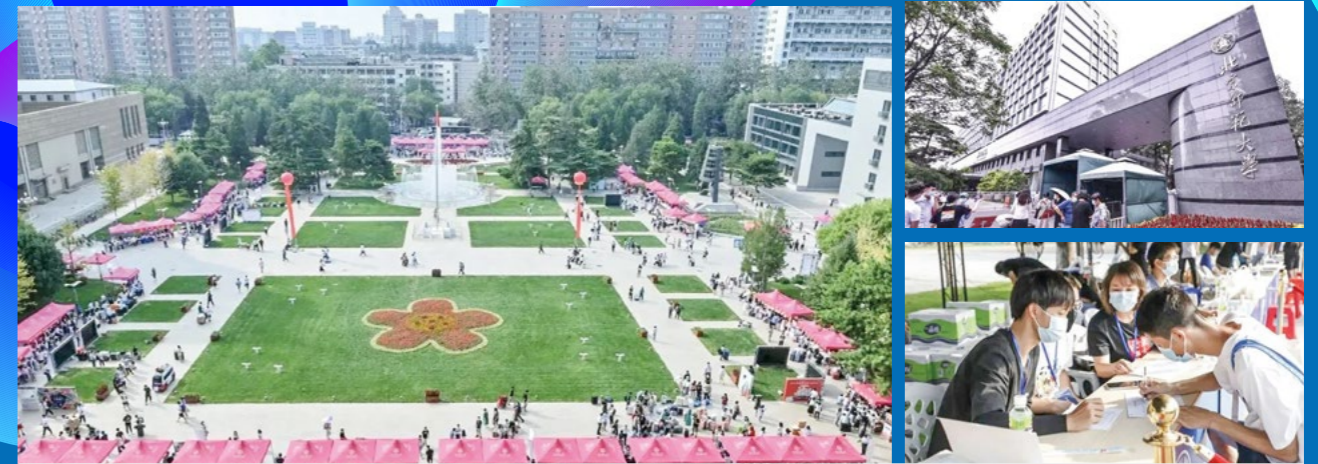
The ceremony ended satisfactorily with all teachers and students singing the school song.



Other venues of the opening ceremony

# BNU Welcomes 2022 Freshmen

Article source: Official Website of BNU | Release date: 2022-09-07



September 3<sup>rd</sup>, the registration day, BNU Beijing welcomes more than 2000 undergraduate freshmen and more than 3800 postgraduate freshmen to register for admission.

At the general reception station, the Student Affairs Department has set up an orientation point to take charge of the reception guidance and service guarantee of freshmen. The Funding Management Center has set up a "green channel" to provide one-stop services such as tuition fee deferment procedures, national student loan consultation, and gift packages distribution; The Youth League Committee of the university has set up a vanguard of youth volunteer service to help freshmen understand the check-in process and get familiar with the



campus environment; The General Affairs Department has also set up a baggage transport team to

provide baggage handling services for freshmen; The security office has assigned additional security personnel at



each school gate to maintain the order of students entering university; The school hospital has provided nucleic acid testing services for freshmen on the first day of admission at the capital square, the east gate and the west gate; The Information Network Center has set up the electronic check-in consultation service point in the capital square to provide electronic



check-in, campus card consultation and other services for freshmen. All colleges (departments) have set up welcome work points in the

capital square to handle check-in procedures, distribute check-in materials and carry out welcome activities for new students.



August 31 was the registration day of Beijing Normal University at Zhuhai. BNU Zhuhai welcomed 1933 undergraduate freshmen and 1573 postgraduate freshmen to register for admission.



# BNU Summer School 2022 Theming "Gather in China Through Cloud, Enjoy Learning in BNU" Is Held

Article source: Office of International Exchange and Cooperation | Release date: 2022-09-06

**B**NU SUMMER SCHOOL 2022 (hereinafter referred to as "Summer School") was held in the summer of 2022. The Summer School, organized by Beijing Campus and Zhuhai Campus under the theme "Gather in China, Enjoy Learning in BNU", includes 18 courses on global economic and social governance, sustainable development and other topics, covering education, geography, economics and other aspects, and attracting 3,625 students and 101 teachers and scholars from 34 provinces and municipalities in China and 56 countries such as the United States, Britain, Japan and France. The Summer School brought teachers and students from all over the world together on cloud, and set up an international stage for students from all over the world to share ideas and learn cutting-edge knowledge.

In addressing the opening ceremony, ZHOU Zuoyu, vice president of BNU, pointed out that: the UN's 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development is encountering new



ZHOU Zuoyu, vice president of BNU, delivered a speech

challenges; geopolitics shows new features; the world economy is facing new tests; and the COVID-19 epidemic increases the uncertainty of the future. However, the more difficulties and challenges we face, the more we need to work together to meet them. The Summer School is not suspended due to the epidemic, which shows the inherent quality that BNU's concept of openness, inclusiveness and joint development will not fade due to the epidemic. BNU adheres to the pursuit of academic excellence, leads educational innovation, promotes international understanding, assumes social responsibilities as an university, and actively contributes

to the service for national strategies and the building of a community with a shared future for mankind. The Summer School, an international exchange platform relying on the superior discipline platform of BNU, invites heavyweight experts to give lectures, hoping that students can enjoy academic feast, increase knowledge and gain friendship.

As the global development faces new challenges while making positive progress, it is increasingly important to cultivate the global competence of the new generation of young people. The Summer School enhanced students' "global competence" by combining the



advantages and characteristics of different disciplines. For example, the School of Philosophy that focused on “the self and the other from the perspective of Chinese and Western culture” promoted understanding between Chinese and foreign youth; the Business School that focused on “macro-economics and business in BRICS countries” improved students’ ability to analyze global issues by multiple approaches and contributes to sustainable development.



Summer Schools of the School of Philosophy and the Business School

Scientific research is always an important way to meet future challenges. The Summer School brought together the world’s top research teams to enhance the global competitiveness of scientific research. The School of Environment invited international front-line experts to carry out international joint training of students with focus on the hot directions such as circular economy and carbon neutrality; the College of Water Sciences cooperated with Lund University (Sweden) to explore the frontier progress of eco hydrological model; the Faculty of Geographical Science, in conjunction with the State Key Laboratory of Remote Sensing Science and the Beijing Engineering Technology Research Center for Landsurface Remote Sensing Data Products,

helped students to understand the theory and method of inversion of landsurface satellite remote sensing data.



Summer Schools of the School of Environment, the College of Water Sciences and the Faculty of Geographical Science

In the future society, global vision is a necessary quality for students. The Summer School enhanced students’ ability to participate in global governance and built a social service system with a global vision. The Institute of International and Comparative Education launched a program of “Global Education Governance: Discussion, Co-governance and Sharing” to explore the global education governance and possible contributions of China.



Summer School of the Institute of International and Comparative Education

The development and prosperity of a country inevitably requires a significant increase in cultural influence. The Summer School actively responded to the “going out” strategy for Chinese culture and enhanced the global influence of cultural communication. The School of International Chinese Language Education launched a program of online Chinese language learning and cultural experience to enhance overseas students’ understanding of Chinese history, culture and modern society; the School of Arts & Communication set up a “class of Chinese traditional painting and calligraphy appreciation and experience” to help students to understand the aesthetic characteristics and cultural connotation of Chinese painting and calligraphy; the Phoenix School that focused on “love and humanistic spirit in Chinese culture” taught the essence of benevolence and culture in different historical periods of China to students; the Research and Development Center for Intangible Culture Heritage of the Institute of Advanced Studies in Humanities and Social Sciences held the Beijing Global Classroom in the Air theming “intangible culture heritage experience and practical education” to promote the learning and experience of Chinese intangible culture heritage by college students at home and abroad based on three world-class intangible culture heritage items, namely, paper cutting, shadow play and puppet show.



Summer Schools of the School of International Chinese Language Education and the Phoenix School and Beijing Global Classroom in the Air Theming “Intangible Culture Heritage Experience and Practical Education”

The School of Journalism and Communication set up the “Summer Workshop Theming ‘new paradigm and new method for future communication’”, instructing students to think about communication innovation and media future; the School of Foreign Languages and Literature launched the “BNU-William & Mary ESL Summer School”, focusing on English education; the School of Arts & Communication launched the “Classroom of Creation by Film and Television Directors and Summer Workshop”, gathering film and television creation methods at home and abroad; the Phoenix School set up the “Innovative and Creative Thinking Framework”, presenting a differentiated perspective on innovative problem solving in the business world; and the School of Systems Science launched the summer program to disseminate ideas of systems science. These wonderful courses provided an academic feast for students.



Summer Schools of the School of Journalism and Communication, “BNU-William & Mary ESL” of the School of Foreign Languages and Literature, the School of Arts & Communication and the School of Systems Science

Students who participated in the Summer School said they benefited a lot therefrom. Harjeet Singh from the Delhi University (India) said that the younger generation would be committed to pursuing truth, peace and prosperity. ZHANG Yi'en from the Hong Kong Polytechnic University, said that in contacting with professors and students from all over the world, he/she felt that governments and people in different regions had realized the necessity and importance of folk culture and intangible culture



heritage in the era of rapid information development. XU Zhe from the Universität zu Köln said that the high degree of intersection and integration of communication science, cognitive neuroscience and computer science provides a new epistemological and methodological paradigm for understanding the complex world, and he/she would like to thank the BNU's summer workshop for bringing together pioneers, explorers and fellow travelers in the field of "new paradigm for future communication". Molodyk Alisha from Russia said that although the time was short, the Summer School broadened their horizons, increased their knowledge, and enabled them to learn about Chinese culture and history, and it was very important that teachers and students introduced modern Beijing and modern China to them. Roberto Rodolfo Fajardo from the ASA Foundation said that he was particularly interested in the relationship among calligraphy, painting and Chinese culture, and the brushes and lines expressed a comprehensive feeling of history and scale, making Chinese painting and calligraphy become artworks and world heritages.

In the future, the BNU will continue to hold the annual international summer school to further strengthen international exchanges and cooperation, and create a better platform for exchanges and learning of students from all over the world; continue to serve national major strategies and make more meaningful contributions to society.



Poster for BNU Summer School 2022 Theming "Gather in China Through Clouds, Enjoy Learning in BNU"

# 120<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Beijing Normal University

[ Anniversary Celebration ]

## The Celebration of the 38<sup>th</sup> Teachers' Day and the 120<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Beijing Normal University Was Held

Article source: Wechat of BNU | Release date: 2022-09-10

### 习近平回信勉励北京师范大学“优师计划”师范生

到祖国和人民最需要的地方去 努力成为党和人民满意的“四有”好老师

At 10:00 am on September 8<sup>th</sup>, the celebration of the 38<sup>th</sup> Teachers' Day and the 120<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Beijing Normal University (BNU) was held. In the letter to students of Beijing Normal University attending the Outstanding Teachers Program, Chinese President XI Jinping extended his warm congratulations and best wishes to all faculty members, students and alumni as Beijing Normal University celebrated its 120<sup>th</sup> anniversary.



HUAI Jinpeng, Minister of the Ministry of Education of China, read out Chinese President XI Jinping's important letter to students of Beijing Normal University attending the Outstanding Teachers Program, and delivered a speech. The celebration was participated by XIA Linmao, Member of the Standing Committee and Secretary of the Education Working Committee of the Beijing Municipal Party Committee, CHEN Zongxing, Vice Chairman of the 11<sup>th</sup> Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference, WEI Liqun, Former Secretary of the Leading Party Group and Head of the Research Office of the State Council, LIU Binjie, Former Secretary of the Leading Party Group and Minister of the National Press and Publication Administration and Former Minister of the National Copyright Administration, HE Yiting, Chairman of the Social Development Committee of the 13<sup>th</sup> National People's Congress, LONG Xinmin, Member of the Standing Committee of the 12<sup>th</sup> Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference and Former Deputy Director of the Party History Research Center of the



CPC Central Committee, ZHANG Tingfang, an outstanding alumnus of BNU and Former Vice President of Tibet University who has long been rooted in border construction, CHENG Jianping, Secretary of the Party Committee of BNU, MA Jun, Deputy Secretary of the Party Committee and President of BNU, relevant leaders of the Ministry of Education, alumni representatives, representatives of educational philanthropists, BNU's leaders, representatives of former leaders, and representatives of teachers and students, and representatives of

the media on the site.

President MA Jun delivered a speech titled "revitalization of the country through education in 120 years". Vice President KANG Zhen presided over the celebration. Faculty members, students, alumni at home and abroad, and people from all walks of life who care about and support the development of BNU gathered together on campus or cloud to celebrate the 120<sup>th</sup> birthday of BNU.

The celebration kicked off with the solemn national anthem.



### HUAI Jinpeng, Minister of the Ministry of Education, read out Chinese President XI Jinping's important letter and delivered a speech



HUAI Jinpeng pointed out that in the letter to students of BNU attending the Outstanding Teachers Program, Chinese President XI Jinping expressed his earnest expectations on students, and extended his warm congratulations and best wishes to all faculty members, students and alumni of BNU and to all teachers across the country on the occasion of the 120<sup>th</sup> anniversary of BNU and the 38<sup>th</sup> Teachers' Day, which fully reflects the CPC Central Committee's great

attention to education and concern for teachers and students, expresses the expectation for teachers in the new era to cultivate morality, impart knowledge and educate people, and provides the direction and fundamental guidance for the cultivation of high-quality teachers. The education system should earnestly study and understand, and firmly carry out, the spirits in the letter.

HUAI Jinpeng emphasized that BNU should keep in mind Chinese President XI Jinping's entrustment, take the 120<sup>th</sup> anniversary of BNU as a new start, shoulder the heavy responsibility, accelerate the development, and strive to promote the construction of a world-class university with Chinese characteristics. Firstly, BNU should insist on following the overall leadership of the party, combine the learning and implementation of the spirits in the important letter and the thorough implementation of Chinese President XI Jinping's important statement on education, and run itself under the guidance of socialism. Secondly, BNU should adhere to cultivating morality, educate people with XI Jinping Thought on Socialism with Chinese Characteristics for a New Era, and strive to train a new generation of teachers for the era who can bear great responsibility. Thirdly, BNU should persist in serving the demand, accurately align with national strategic needs, strengthen organized scientific research, and accelerate the building of a national strategic scientific and technological force. Fourthly, BNU should insist on deepening the reform, innovate the teacher training model and evaluation system, thoroughly implement the "Outstanding Teachers Program", and strive to train qualified teachers with firm ideals and beliefs, moral sentiments, solid knowledge and benevolence that the party and people are satisfied with.

### MA Jun, president of BNU, delivered a speech

MA Jun, on behalf of BNU, would like to extend a warm welcome to all the leaders and guests present at the celebration, holiday greetings and sincere wishes to all the faculty members, students, and alumni at home and abroad, and heartfelt thanks to people from all walks of life who have cared about and supported the development of BNU for a long time. He said that it is a great





honor and inspiration that Chinese President XI Jinping replied to the letter of students of BNU attending the Outstanding Teachers Program, extending his warm congratulations and best wishes to all faculty members, students and alumni and his deep concerns and ardent expectations for all BNU people on the occasion of the 38<sup>th</sup> Teachers' Day and the 120<sup>th</sup> anniversary of BNU.

MA Jun pointed out that BNU has been promoting the revitalization of the country through education in the 120-year history. BNU is built in the extraordinary years of national crisis and national salvation, develops in the socialist revolution and construction period when the world changes and people are determined to improve themselves, expands in the reform and opening up and socialist modernization period requiring people to emancipate the mind and forge ahead, and advances courageously in the new era of great rejuvenation featuring integrity, innovation, self-confidence and self-improvement. Over the past 120 years, BNU has lived and breathed with the nation, always insisted on the sacred mission of revitalizing the country through education, and made historic contributions in the pursuit of great revival of modern China with the high sense of responsibility and sense of mission, painting a magnificent picture.

Looking back at the course of struggle of 120 years, we have a common understanding: despite changes in the times and the society, BNU will pass on its fine tradition and spirit of "normal university with red inheritance" forever. BNU always adheres to continuing the unremitting pursuit of "patriotism, progress and pioneering spirit", carrying forward the motto of "learn, so as to instruct others; act, to serve as example to all", inheriting the education concept of "pursuing studies, cultivating moral character and benefiting others", and cultivating the temperament and character of "great virtues, hard work and happy education as the highest good". The development history of BNU is a vivid miniature of the development of China's higher normal education, a wonderful record of the development of China's modern science, education and culture, and a shining portrayal of the Chinese nation's pursuit of the dream of rejuvenation and the road to make China strong through education since modern times.

MA Jun emphasized that on the 120<sup>th</sup> anniversary of BNU, a new start point in history, we should carefully study and understand Chinese President XI Jinping's important letter, review Chinese President XI Jinping's important speech on a qualified teacher with firm ideals and beliefs, moral sentiments, solid knowledge and benevolence, further enhance the sense of responsibility and sense of mission for shouldering the great trust from the party and the country, and determine the more clear direction of development. Facing the future, BNU should comprehensively strengthen its responsibility to serve the country, enhance its ability to serve the country, and promote the high-quality development of its undertakings, so as to make new achievements on the new journey. We must shoulder the mission of national rejuvenation and strive for national prosperity and people's happiness; shoulder the mission of making China strong through education, and always lead teacher education in China; shoulder the mission as a first-class university and always take

the lead in building a world-class university with Chinese characteristics; shoulder the mission of cultural inheritance and innovation and always pioneer social moral. We must keep in mind Chinese President XI Jinping's entrustment, profoundly comprehend the decisive significance of the situation that Party has established Comrade XI Jinping's core position on the Party Central Committee and in the Party as a whole and defined the guiding role of XI Jinping Thought on Socialism with Chinese Characteristics for a New Era, strengthen the consciousness of the need to maintain political integrity, think in big-picture terms, follow the leadership core, and keep in alignment with the central Party leadership, enhance the confidence in the path, theory, system and culture of socialism with Chinese characteristics, uphold XI Jinping's core position on the CPC Central Committee and in the Party as a whole as well as the Central Committee's authority and its centralized, unified leadership, follow the strong leadership of the CPC Central Committee, inherit the original intention of BNU, shoulder the mission of rejuvenating the country through education, speed up the construction of a world-class university with Chinese characteristics, welcome the opening of the 20<sup>th</sup> National Congress of the CPC with outstanding achievements, and make new and greater contributions to the comprehensive construction of a modern socialist country, the realization of the Chinese dream of national rejuvenation, and the advancement of human civilization.

## Congratulatory letters and videos from colleges and universities at home and abroad, cooperators, all sectors of society and alumni at home and abroad

On the eve of the celebration, BNU received nearly 260 congratulatory letters and videos from colleges and universities at home and abroad, cooperators and all sectors of society, and many greeting videos from alumni at home and abroad. At the celebration, teachers, students and guests watched together "cloud congratulation" video clips from the Peking University, the East China Normal University, the



United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the Yale University, and alumni such as Mr GU Mingyuan, senior professor of BNU, Academician LI Peng, President of Zhengzhou University, and GOU Xiaolong, one of the first batch of government-supported normal students and teacher of Shaanxi Baoji Weibin Middle School.



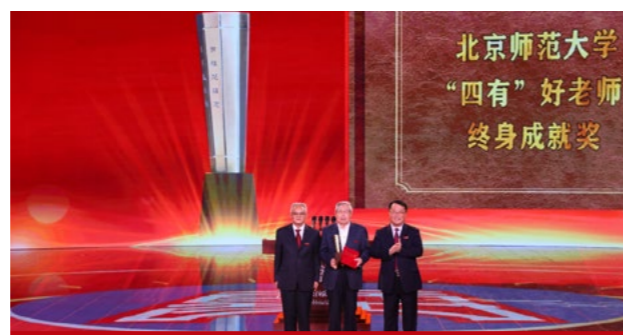


## Awarding of BNU's third lifetime achievement award for the qualified teacher with firm ideals and beliefs, moral sentiments, solid knowledge and benevolence



Later, the awarding ceremony of BNU's third lifetime achievement award for the qualified teacher with firm ideals and beliefs, moral sentiments, solid knowledge and benevolence was held. Since 2017, BNU has established the honorary title of lifetime achievement award for the qualified teacher with firm ideals and beliefs, moral sentiments, solid knowledge and benevolence in order to carry forward noble teachers' ethics, set up good examples in imparting knowledge and educating people, and commend outstanding teachers who have made outstanding contributions in the field of education and teaching. At the ceremony, teachers, students and guests reviewed the exemplary deeds of the winners of the first and second lifetime achievement awards for the qualified teacher with firm ideals and beliefs, moral sentiments, solid knowledge and benevolence, and

Secretary CHENG Jianping and President MA Jun presented the trophy and certificate to the winner of the third lifetime achievement award for the qualified teacher with firm ideals and beliefs, moral sentiments, solid knowledge and benevolence, namely, Mr. LIN Chongde, senior professor of BNU from the Faculty of Psychology.



## Flag presentation to graduates of the Launch Program

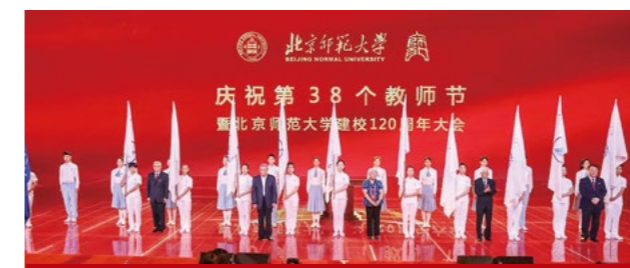
Later, the ceremony of flag presentation to graduates of the Launch Program was held. In recent years, to thoroughly implement the spirit of Chinese President XI Jinping's important speech on the qualified teacher with firm ideals and beliefs, moral sentiments, solid knowledge and benevolence, the Party Committee of BNU took the lead in launching the "Program of Expanding the Number and Improving the Quality of Teachers", and started the "Outstanding Teachers Program" and the Launch Program for qualified teacher with firm ideals and beliefs, moral sentiments, solid knowledge and benevolence to encourage and instruct more excellent graduates to serve in the field of primary education, go

Mr. LIN Chongde, Mr. ZHANG Tingfang, Secretary CHENG Jianping and President MA Jun presented flags to representative of 2022 graduates attending the Launch Program. The representatives made a solemn



oath that they would go to all parts of the country with positive and enterprising spirits and open the chapter of life of serving the country as teachers.

At last, the celebration came to a successful end with the Song of Beijing Normal University sang by all the present guests, teachers and students, and online alumni.



down to serve at the grassroots in central and western regions, and strive to become a qualified teacher with firm ideals and beliefs, moral sentiments, solid knowledge and benevolence. Mr. GU Mingyuan,

The celebration was broadcast live through such platforms as xuexi.cn, People's Daily, Guangming Daily, cnr.cn, culturede.cn, BNU's Wechat video account, Weibo, Douyin, Kuaishou, Bilibili, and Qiangshi Online.



Main venue



Video sub-venue



# "120-year Glory" Themed Youth Singing Party for Celebrating the 38<sup>th</sup> Teachers' Day

Article Source: Wechat of BNU | Release date: 2022-09-10



On September 7<sup>th</sup>, Chinese President XI Jinping replied to a letter from students participating in the Outstanding Teachers Program at the BNU, expressing earnest expectations on such students and extending congratulations and best wishes to all faculty members, students and alumni of the BNU and greetings to teachers across the country ahead of the 120<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the BNU and the 38<sup>th</sup> Teachers' Day.

On September 8<sup>th</sup>, BNU held the "120-year Glory" themed youth singing party for celebrating the 38<sup>th</sup> Teachers' Day. It was broadcasted live on 17 platforms and viewed by 2.937 million people online.

The sound of muduo never ends; the 120-year glory is in the prime. Through the youth singing party, we want to show the history and culture of BNU, convey the ideal ambition and value pursuit of BNU people,

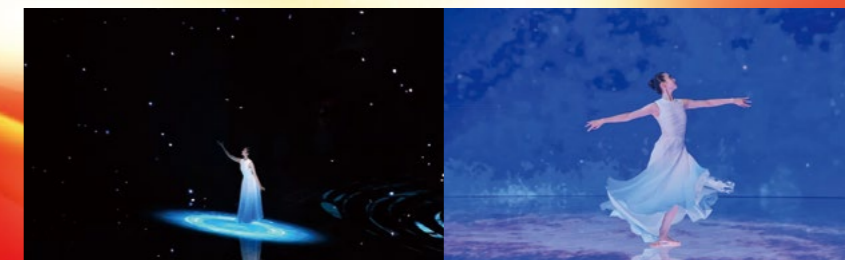
and send the most sincere holiday wishes to teachers and educators. The singing party consists of six chapters theming "a seed, a beam of light, a drop of water, a tree, a group of people, and a dream" respectively.



## Introduction • A Seed

Salute our forefathers in education for the original aspiration

In every seed lies the power of life and the desire to grow. 120 years ago, the Education Department of Imperial University of Peking Hall was founded, shouldering the mission of imparting knowledge, educating people, and revitalizing the country through education, exploring the way of educating people, and pursuing the light of revitalizing the country. Over more than 100 years, the BNU has been committed to spreading advanced educational ideas, and innovating educational theories and practice. The 120-year glory starts from the painstaking work and boundless



Multimedia interactive Sowing

hope of the light chaser in sowing.

A good harvest depends on the spring sowing; as the spring sowing has been done, the future is promising. In the chorus of children from the Asia Pacific Experimental School of Beijing Normal Univer-

sity, the clean, pure and powerful voice cut through the layers of soil and brought tender shoots called youth and growth. What our forefathers asked has already turned into today's answer. The glory of Chinese education shines in the new era, as you wish.



Children's chorus Ask

## Chapter I • A Drop of Water

Salute teachers for the character as good as water



A drop of water is the softest but can wear the stone, and is the most invisible but never yields in spite of reverses. The members of the Jinfan Dance Troupe from the Experimental High School Affiliated to Beijing

Normal University performed "spring rain", showing water moistening everything through dancing postures. Teachers exert a subtle influence on the character of students, just like water moistening things silently.





Dance Spring Rain

The Faculty Choir of the Beijing Normal University Labor Union and the Dance Department of the School of Arts & Communication of Beijing Normal University jointly performed the story of alumna ZHANG Tingfang's offering teaching service in the under-developed region. Half a century ago, ZHANG Tingfang, 26 years old, left her hometown of Beijing and devoted most of her life to Tibetan education. Unfamiliar environment and language barrier did not knock her down. She and her husband WANG Junmei jointly compiled the Chinese

Language Textbook in Chinese Pinyin, Chinese, and Tibetan.

"I miss the moon of my hometown



Ensemble and Chorus That's Me

and the reflection of green mountains in the water. Oh, mother, if you hear a folk song from afar, that's me, that's me."



The students in Beijing and Zhuhai sang a song Boundless Oceans, Vast Skies at the same time. Mighty rivers run to the sea; the sea embraces all rivers; the sea is wide and the sky spacious!



Dance and chorus Boundless Oceans, Vast Skies

## Chapter II • A Beam of Light

Salute teachers for the belief that lights our lives

A beam of light cuts through the night sky, illuminating the direction forward; little starlights confluence into the milky way, glowing all over the sky. The Recitation Group of the Beijing Normal University Labor Union shouted "I am the light" in the poem. The Dance Department and the Music Department of the School of Arts & Communication jointly performed the works



Multimedia interactive Light Up

The Country's Rise or Fall and Sunset Song. "Governing the country and bringing peace to the world will depend on us". It is a

tearful candle that burns self to illuminate others; it is the ray of belief like "the rising sun shining in the world".



Recitation I Am the Light



In the tide of the Times, let us set sail; on the stage of BNU, youthful songs float. BNU people of different ages sang 120-year Youth, showing the 120-year heritage and emerging power.



Song 120-year Youth



### Chapter III • A Tree

Salute teachers for the spirit of taking root in education

A tree roots in solid ground. In countless seemingly ordinary days and nights, teachers play the song of educating people with chalk, just like towering trees that build the foundation, hold up a shade, and offer more fruits.



Multimedia interactive Taking Root

BNU flourishes. The students from the affiliated schools gathered together and showed the vitality of BNU students with the dance Making Progress Every Day.



Desk-related exercise and aerobics Making Progress Every Day



Chorus Love You

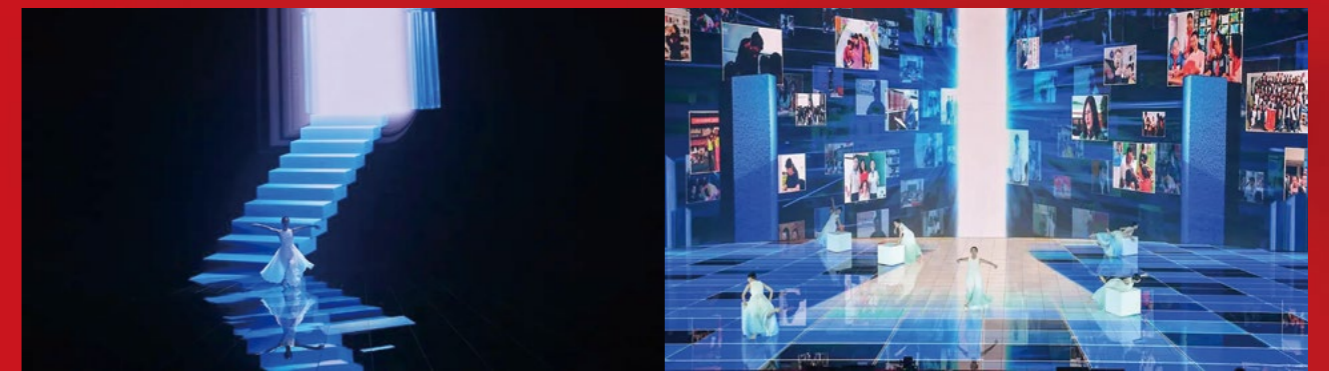
The song Love You expressed respect and thanks to teachers and the school; the program Beautiful Wings showed that people can bloom infinite wonderfulness in a limited range on the stage of life.



Solo and dance Beautiful Wings

### Chapter IV • A Group of People

Salute every ordinary teacher in the world



Multimedia interactive Aspiration

A group of people share the burden of the country. At historical moments that promote the progress of the Times and save the nation

from danger, such as the “May 4<sup>th</sup>” Movement, the “December 9<sup>th</sup>” Movement..., BNU people have bravely walked in the forefront of

the Times. It is the aspiration of the group of light chasers to shoulder the mission and promote national prosperity.



They sing the melody of truth on the platform, and use the firm belief and the true feeling of serving the country to write the youth without regret.



Statement and dance Every Time I Walk Past My Teacher's Window

The students from the Jinfan Dance Troupe and the Ma Lanua Choir of the High School Affiliated to Beijing Normal University expressed their respect and affection for their beloved teachers through the dance.



Chorus Big Eyes

In the song of Under Phoenix Mountain and Qualified Teacher with Four Characters, teachers and students kept in mind the instruction on a qualified teacher with firm ideals and beliefs, moral sentiments, solid knowledge and benevolence; the audience passed the banner of "long live teachers" to pay respect to the most glorious teacher profession.

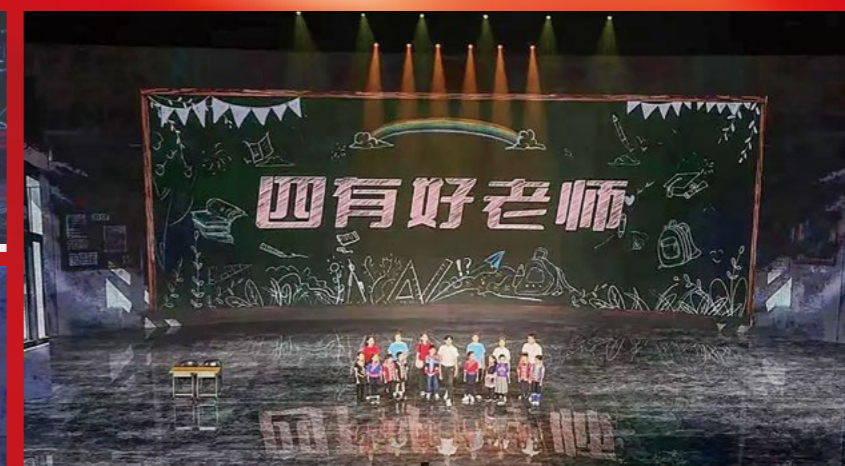


Chorus Under Phoenix Mountain and Qualified Teacher with Four Characters

## Epilogue • A Dream

Salute BNU for promoting the revitalization of the country through education in the 120-year history

BNU people state the sincere desire to revitalize the country through education in keeping carrying forward culture and developing education in over 100 years. BNU has been served the country with education in the past 120 years, and will write the education dream in the new era with action.



Report play A Letter

Theme Song Chasing the Light and Dream - A Teacher's Song in the New Era





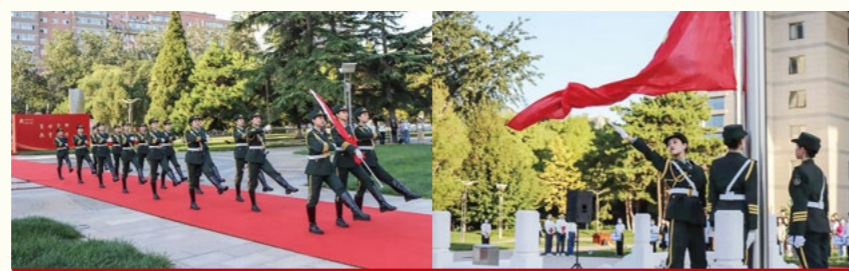
# Celebration Activities

## They Personally Received the Special Five-starred Red Flag!

Article source: Wechat of BNU | Release date: 2022-09-10

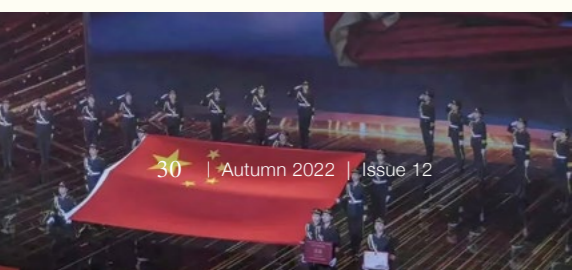
BNU has been promoting the revitalization of the country through education in the 120-year history. September 8th, 2022 marks the 120th anniversary of BNU. To celebrate the 120th anniversary, BNU held a series of activities such as the celebration of the 38th Teachers' Day and the 120th anniversary of BNU and the "120-year Glory" themed youth singing party. The Women's National Flag Guard of BNU actively participated in the celebration activities and took practical actions to celebrate the birthday of our alma mater.

On the morning of September 8th,



BNU held a flag-raising ceremony to celebrate its 120th anniversary at the BNU Square. At 7:00 am, the flag-raising ceremony officially began. The members of the national flag guard marched with elegant appearance, good spirit, heroic bearing and sonorous pace. They escorted the national flag to the flag-raising platform with neat steps

under the gaze of all audience. As the national anthem sounded, the bright five-starred red flag was unfurled and slowly rose. All teachers and students stood in awe, singing the national anthem together in front of the flying national flag and saluting with eyes to express their deep wishes to their alma mater.



At 18:37 pm that day, six members from the national flag guard of BNU went to Tian'anmen Square, received the national flag that flew over the Tian'anmen Square on the 120th anniversary of BNU from the guard of honour of the three services, and

escorted it to the scene of the youth singing party. The 39 members of the national flag guard at the scene presented to the audience the special five-starred red flag, which will be permanently enshrined in the History Hall of Beijing Normal University.

The video on the handover and display of the national flag attracted warm response and attention from teachers and students of BNU as soon as it was broadcast. As the members of the national flag guard who were part of the glorious moment, they have a lot to say...

### Impressions of members

We are so happy and proud that we can, on behalf of the Women's National Flag Guard of BNU, hand over the national flag at the Tian'anmen Square for our alma mater on the 120th anniversary of BNU.

We came to Tian'anmen Square with excited mood, looking at the sonorous pace and steellike backbone of soldiers. After going through the meridian gate and end gate with the guard of honour of the three services, we stopped in the face of Jinshui Bridge, looking at the flag raising and lowering square team that went across Chang'an Avenue, and the national flag that was slowly lowered, and then handed over to our hands... I think I will never forget the texture and weight of the national flag in my hand that is the inheritance of the national flag guard and the belief. The national flag will always be cherished in the hearts of every BNU people. In the scene of the youth singing party, almost when I grasped the corner of the flag and "salute! -", my tears began to roll down.

Today is the 120th birthday of our alma mater. Chinese President XI Jinping also replied to the letter of students of BNU attending the "Outstanding Teachers Program", encouraging them to serve in places where the country and

people need them the most, and work hard to become a qualified teacher with firm ideals and beliefs, moral sentiments, solid knowledge and benevolence that the party and people are satisfied with. I swore in my heart that as a student of BNU, I would devote myself to the sacred cause of defending and building the motherland.

"The five-starred red flag that flew at the Tian'anmen Square on September 8th, 2022 will be permanently enshrined in the History Hall of Beijing Normal University and in the hearts of all BNU people!"

**YUAN Mingjing**

a 2020 member of the national flag guard

In nearly a month of training, I seemed to find the feeling of military training for freshmen, that is, it was very tired but very substantial to stand at attention and practice queueing; the training was also very effective. I was also very lucky to be selected as a member of the national flag guard. All members worked together to repeatedly modify the movements and test the method of folding and unfolding



the national flag, so that we could make no mistake when we finally got the national flag. Although it is a pity that I could not participate in the flag presentation at the Tian'anmen Square, when the national flag really appeared in front of us, the nervous and excited mood was beyond words. We practiced carefully, found the most efficient way to complete the task, and checked again and again until we appeared on the stage. When we perfectly unfolded the national flag that flew at the Tian'anmen Square on September 8th and heard the cheers of the audience, I already cried my eyes out. Thank the directors, instructors and all the members. We accomplished this task together and celebrated the birthday of BNU in the best way!

**ZHANG Yijing**

a 2020 member of the national flag guard

It is the highlight moment in my life that I can hold the national flag at the scene of the "120-year Glory" youth singing party. I am very proud of myself as a BNU people and a member of the national flag guard. This year is my last year in BNU. I am very grateful to the national flag guard for giving me this opportunity to have such a glorious experience in my last university life.

Before appearing on the stage, the national flag guard trained again and again without physical objects, just to successfully complete the handover on the stage. The holiness and majesty of the national flag is deeply imprinted in the heart of every member of the national flag guard. We must not make mistakes! Because the national flag is the mission of our national flag guard, and the treasure that our dozens of

people are determined to guard! The uniform soaked with sweat again and again, the military posture that we stand at until the leg hurts, and the arm that still hurts until now witness that I have tried to protect the national flag, which is worth all the efforts!

**ZHOU Mingyue**

a 2019 member of the national flag guard

On September 8th, 2022, I set foot on the road to attend the flag-giving ceremony at the Tian'anmen Square with nerves and excitement. When I really saw the guard of honour of the three services, I had mixed feelings, including excited, moved and shocked feelings. At the moment I saw the national flag, I felt very proud of myself as a Chinese and a BNU people. Hearing the letter from Chinese President XI Jinping to encourage students of BNU attending the "Outstanding Teachers Program", I am more determined to study hard, cultivate the character, improve capabilities, and become a capable people with moral grounding, intellectual ability, physical vigor, aesthetic sensibility and work skills for the socialist cause.

**LIAO Zihan**

a 2021 member of the national flag guard

Today, the Women's National Flag Guard of Beijing Normal University has overcome all difficulties and successfully completed its mission, delivering a satisfactory answer to itself and the university.

When we arrived at the Tian'anmen Square,

and stopped at Jinshui Bridge with the guard of honour of the three services, I looked at them from the front of me to the flag, with footsteps echoing in the bridge opening, accompanied by sunset in Beijing and the Monument to the People's heroes. All these were grand as unreal as a dream, so that I can not calm down for a long time. At the moment that we unrolled the national flag at the scene of the youth singing party, the cheers from the audience almost drowned the background music, and I heard someone shouting the national flag guard and saw all the people were proud of us. How difficult, how precious, how lucky! On the occasion of the anniversary of BNU, Chinese President XI Jinping replied to the letter of students of BNU attending the "Outstanding Teachers Program", encouraging them to serve in places where the country and people need them the most, which showed the ardent expectations of the motherland for us, and the mission of BNU people in the era. In the future, I will try my best to improve my quality and become a capable person in the era.

Thank the motherland, thank BNU, and thank myself!

**HUANG Yixin**

a 2021 member of the national flag guard

BNU has been promoting the revitalization of the country through education in the 120-year history. It is a great luck and honor for me to appear on the stage of the "120-year Glory" youth singing party as a member of the national flag guard and personally hold the five-starred red flag that flew at the

Tian'anmen Square. I will keep in mind the entrustment of Chinese President XI Jinping in his letter to students of BNU attending the "Outstanding Teachers Program", waste no time and study hard, cultivate moral character, and leave the most beautiful mark in youth.

**HOU Yueman**

a 2020 member of the national flag guard

The sound of muduo never ends. The Women's National Flag Guard handed over the national flag for collection in the song of teachers' pursuit of light and dream in the new era. The 120-year glory lights up the dream. The students of BNU will surely compose their educational dreams in the new era with practical actions, remain true to their original aspirations, waste no time, strive to become a qualified teacher with firm ideals and beliefs, moral sentiments, solid knowledge and benevolence that the party and people are satisfied with, and make contributions to the cultivation of a new generation of capable young people with moral grounding, intellectual ability, physical vigor, aesthetic sensibility and work skills for the socialist cause.







# The Film "Today and Me" Was Showed Specially on the Teachers' Day! Never Forget the Teacher's Original Intention Over the Past 120 Years

Article source: Wechat of BNU | Release date: 2022-09-12

The film "Today and Me", with Professor LIANG Zhenhua from the School of Chinese Language and Literature of BNU as the chief scriptwriter, general producer and art director, ZHAO Xiaolu and ZHAO Xiaou as the director, and alumna HU Yating from the School of Chinese Language and Literature of BNU as the scriptwriter, was officially released on September 10<sup>th</sup>.

The film that consists of stories from three different times tells the meaningful symphony of people

of different times and "today" in more than 100 years. The first episode "University" tells the story that LI Jinxi met LU Xun during teaching and they taught a class about interpreting important classics in vernacular Chinese with Mandarin grammar. The second episode "On the Teacher" tells the story that WANG Zikun, then president of BNU, recalled to the students his childhood poverty and reentry for the teacher's care, and discussed with scholars and sign the proposal on establishment of the Teachers' Day, from which the Teachers' Day

comes. The third episode "Youth" tells the story that on the way to participate in the activities for the Youth Day, a freshman passed by YU Hua's classroom, met with MO Yan talking about literature and life, and saw the spring scenery of BNU; then, the freshman had the inspiration of benefiting a lot from youth. "TODAY" of LIANG Qichao, LI Jinxi, LU Xun, WANG Zikun, QI Gong, MO Yan, YU Hua and other generations of teachers forms a long and exciting song of teachers' inheritance.

## Make bold innovation in integrated narration, and remember teachers with gratitude

"Today and Me" is the message from Mr. LIANG Qichao, and a vow made by him and generations of BNU people. The film elaborates the inheriting spirit of "respecting teachers and valuing education" over the past 100 years with three episodes, namely,





“University”, “On the Teacher” and “Youth”. All the teachers express “Today and Me” with sign language, unfolding a magnificent chapter of 100-year education in front of our eyes. Teachers’ original intention has never changed over 100 years, which is touching.

It is worth mentioning that the film “Today and Me” has a bold attempt on creation, namely, a blend of story, documentary and report. It tells the story of 120-year-old BNU in a simple and plain style, witnesses the memorable moments of teachers and students in the history with the image, and salutes teachers who “burn themselves to light up others” in an emotional and vivid way.

### WANG Jinsong and GAO Weiguang interpret moving teacher-student friendships

The interaction between MO Yan and YU Hua is anticipated

“Every time I look back, there is a pair of eyes looking at me, that is my teacher.” WANG Jinsong plays WANG Zikun, then president of BNU in 1984, in the film. From the inability to continue studying due to poverty in childhood to the reentry under the guidance of teacher HUANG Shaocheng (played by GAO Weiguang), WANG Zikun slowly tells the story between him and his teacher to the students on the platform with tears in eyes; the teacher’s encouragement has been spurred him to grow up, but he has no photograph of the teacher until the teacher died, which has become the biggest regret of WANG Zikun. With a



WANG Zikun tells the story with the teacher in the class



heartfelt “thank you” and a sincere and moving deep bow, WANG Jinsong vividly presents WANG Zikun’s story to us.

QIAO Zhenyu, one of the creators, plays Mr. LI Jinxi in the period of the Republic of China, incisively and vividly showing the teacher style. CAO Lei plays LU Xun for the second time after the Age of Awakening. Starting from the understanding of “Today and Me”, he slowly explains the meaning of “hope” for the students. MO Yan and YU Hua, the general producers of the film, also make a surprise appearance in the film, telling the memorable stories on literary creation to the students. The interesting interaction between them in the film has also triggered a lot of discussion on the Internet.

LU Xun discusses hope with students

### Give back to audience expectations and salute teachers with a sincere work

“The past can not be recovered; today is successful; the future is particularly promising.” “The story of three generations shows inheritance from generation to generation.” “Thank the pioneers and educators in the difficult years. They live up to the principles a master abides by!” The film has gained the audience’s affirmation and support, and triggered a “tide of praise” from industry professionals. Media from all walks of life have spoken out to share their feelings from watching the film, arousing a lot of attention and expectations.

Propose the establishment of the Teachers’ Day nationwide In 1984, President of BNU WANG Zikun, in concert with ZHONG Jingwen, QI Gong, TAO Dayong, ZHU Zhixian, HUANG Ji and ZHAO Qinghuan, put forward the proposal on establishing a national Teachers’ Day, which was adopted in 1985. At this point, on September 10 every year, teachers have their own festival. The film “Today and Me” specially released on the Teachers’ Day traces the origin of the Teachers’ Day and gradually unfolds the magnificent history of education in China for more than 100 years. It not only reviews and commemorates the

eventful years of BNU, but also hopes to trigger more understanding and attention of the public on the Teachers’ Day. Looking back, focusing on the present and looking to the future, the film “Today and Me” sincerely presents the most special holiday gift to teachers all over the world.

With WANG Jinsong and QIAO Zhenyu as the stars, LIU Yun, GAO Weiguang and CAO Lei as the special guest stars, and MA Shuliang, YIN Fang and SUN Qian as the special actors, the film has been released on v.qq.com, iqiyi.com, youku.com, mgmtv.com, Douyin and Bilibili simultaneously since September 10. The film has been broadcast on iTalkBB in North America, ODKMedia in North America, YoYo Television Series Exclusive and YoYo English channel of YouTube, and YoYo Television channel on Dailymotion platform simultaneously with domestic platforms. At the same time, the film will be released in succession on Startimes movie and television play channel in Africa, Cablenet in Indonesia, Eastern Television in North America, and YouTube’s YoYo Vietnamese, Arabic, Russian, Spanish, Portuguese, Japanese, Korean, Thai, Indonesian, French and Italian channels.

On the 38<sup>th</sup> Teachers’ Day, the film pays a tribute to teachers who “use one life to light up another life”.





# The Forum on the Publication of the New Book Alumni of BNU Was Held

Article source: Alumni Association | Release date: 2022-09-11

To pay a tribute to the 120<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of BNU, the Alumni Association, in concert with the Department of Student Affairs of the Party Committee, specially compiled and published the book Alumni of BNU (two volumes). On the afternoon of September 8<sup>th</sup>, the forum on the publication of the new book Alumni of BNU was held online and offline at the “Alumni House” of Yingdong Building, with the participation of ZHOU Zuoyu, chief editor of the book and vice president of BNU. ZHANG Tingfang, a 1965 alumni from the School of Chinese Language and Literature, JIANG Qingming, a 1978 alumni from the School of Philosophy, LIU Chengxu, a 1984 alumni from the School of Mathematical Sciences, WU Pingchuan, a 1988 alumni from the Faculty of Education, LI Na, a 1997 alumni from the Business

School, and DENG Lixiao, a 2003 alumni from the School of Arts & Communication at Zhuhai Campus were invited to attend the forum as alumni representatives. Relevant persons in charge of the Alumni Association and China Publishing Group attended the forum.

ZHOU Zuoyu introduced the creative theme, writing idea and content highlights of the Alumni of BNU. ZHOU Zuoyu pointed out that the 120<sup>th</sup> anniversary of BNU is an important milestone in the development history of BNU and an important moment in the development history of China’s higher normal education. The publication of Alumni of BNU, as one of the cultural achievements of the celebration, comes at the right time. It is a book with words, recording and condensing the feelings between alumni and their



ZHOU Zuoyu and alumni representatives jointly unveiled the new book.

alma mater, and showing the presence of the students of BNU; it is a book without words, reflecting the unique temperament and style of BNU, and bearing the precious spirit and culture of BNU; it is a running book, through which readers can trace the development process of BNU and look forward to the bright future of BNU; it is an open book, which will include more outstanding stories of alumni and influence more people at BNU in the future.



The forum was presided over by LIN Ke, a teacher from the Faculty of Education.

Alumni representatives told stories between themselves and their alma mater, recalled the beautiful youth, shared the treasured old things related to BNU, and expressed their nostalgia for their teachers and classmates. They said that they would benefit from the rigorous school spirit and study style of their alma mater for life, laying the foundation for their growth and development after leaving the university; in the future, they will continue to practice the motto of

“learn, so as to instruct others; act, to serve as example to all”, inherit the excellent culture of their alma mater, work hard, move forward, and live up to the cultivation of their alma mater.

The book Alumni of BNU is divided into three parts, namely, “memories of alumni”, “speeches of alumni” and “presence of alumni”, respectively showing the memories of alumni in the school time, feedback on the guidance of the alma mater for future



students and outstanding presence in fields. In the process of editing and publishing, the book has received strong support from alumni, regional alumni associations and schools and departments of BNU.

# Teachers and Students Celebrated the 120<sup>th</sup> Anniversary with the Help of IT

Article source: Center of Information & Network Technology | Release date: 2022-09-09

On September 8<sup>th</sup>, the celebration of the 38<sup>th</sup> Teachers’ Day and the 120<sup>th</sup> anniversary of BNU was held successfully. Teachers, students and alumni gathered in the venue, exhibition hall, square and cloud to celebrate the grand festival. The Center of Information & Network Technology gave full support to the celebration and sent the best wishes to 120-year-old BNU by virtue of IT.

“Data-based Presentation of BNU” showed the development and achievements of BNU in the past







120 years. In order to meet the 120<sup>th</sup> anniversary of BNU, the Center of Information & Network Technology and the School Data Management Center, in concert with multiple departments on campus, carefully designed and produced the “IT-based Presentation of BNU - Data Screen for the Anniversary”, which was released on September 8<sup>th</sup> at the Siji Hall of the main building. The data screen for the anniversary is divided into seven parts, namely, historical evolution, start of higher normal education and education source, pioneers of the times and red normal school, people’s university and national model, strengthening characteristics and striving to build a first-class university, new era and new journey, and one body with two wings, displaying in an integrated manner and dynamically depicting BNU’s development course over the past 120 years and status quo of achievements in such forms as data visualization, interactive animation and video. The data covers many subjects such as discipline construction, department setting, talent training, scientific research, social services, international exchanges, school-running space and informatization. Constructed based on the university’s “Data-based BNU” school data platform, the data screen for the anniversary selected nearly one million pieces of data from Beijing Campus and Zhuhai campus, and developed 20 large screen applications, showing in a concentrated manner the university’s achievements in the

construction, aggregation and governance of school data over the years.

Cloud network guaranteed the connection of every wonderful moment. In order to ensure the smooth development of the celebration of the anniversary, the Center of Information & Network Technology laid out the network environment in advance, and set up the wireless network BNU-120<sup>th</sup> for the anniversary to ensure that alumni can surf the Internet without worry in the university; tested the basic network for the live broadcast of the celebration for four consecutive days, and set up a special team for live broadcast to ensure the smooth progress of live broadcast; set up the dedicated line to ensure the playback on the large screen of the VIP room without delay; monitored the network operation in real time to ensure the normal operation of the network during the celebration; cooperated with the Working Office for the 120<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in developing the website for the 120<sup>th</sup> anniversary of BNU, and launched such columns as celebration news, celebration activities, blessing to BNU, impression on BNU, and celebration services, to release relevant information on the anniversary in a timely manner.



Entry-exit epidemic prevention services ensured health and safety. During the celebration, the relevant faculty members, alumni and working personnel should come to the campus in advance for rehearsal and installation preparation of facilities and equipment. Under the principle of unrelenting epidemic prevention and control, the Center of Information & Network Technology actively carried out epidemic prevention management and service guarantee. Firstly, the Center of Information & Network Technology provided 7\*24 hours’ entry-exit approval support services for faculty members and off-campus personnel, dealt with the entry application requirements submitted by the Department



of Faculty Affairs & Faculty Development in real time, and answered entry-related questions in real time. Secondly, the Center of Information & Network Technology rebuilt the entrance guard of the campus, and realized the card and face verification authority and the check of health code and nucleic acid status at the east gate, west gate, door of staff canteen and Tasi door, to ensure quick entry in the campus. Thirdly, the Center of Information & Network Technology configured the special permission verification equipment for people entering the campus at the small south gate, and completed the installation and debugging of the equipment on the early morning of September 8, to ensure and improve the efficiency of entry.

IT-themed activities highlighted warm services. To celebrate the 120<sup>th</sup> anniversary, BNU gave 10G

exclusive traffic for the anniversary to each teacher and student. The Center of Information & Network Technology also provided special versions of information portal, e-mail, Internet gateway and other common web pages for the anniversary.

A new start, a new look. The Center of Information & Network Technology will earnestly study and understand the spirit of Chinese President XI Jinping’s letter to students of BNU attending the “Outstanding Teachers Program”, always keep in mind the requirement for a qualified teacher with firm ideals and beliefs, moral sentiments, solid knowledge and benevolence, adhere to the original intention of 120-year-old BNU, insist on the purpose of serving teachers and students, and make contributions to the realization of “the dream of BNU”.







## The BNU at Zhuhai Successfully Held the Celebration Under the Theme of "Gathering at the 120-year-old BNU, Welcoming the Mid-autumn Festival"

Article source: Official Website of BNU of Zhuhai | Release date: 2022-09-10

The autumn comes after the summer ends. On the afternoon of September 9, 2022, to celebrate the 120<sup>th</sup> anniversary of BNU, the 38<sup>th</sup> Teachers' Day and the Mid-Autumn Festival, the International Office and the Office of Hong Kong, Macao and Taiwan Affairs of Zhuhai Campus held the celebration under the theme of "gathering at the 120-year-old BNU, welcoming

the Mid-autumn Festival". More than 40 foreign teachers, teachers from Hong Kong, Macao and Taiwan, and representatives of international students gathered at the Multi-functional Hall of the Faculty's Home to express their sentiments of education and celebrate the Mid-autumn Festival.

At about 4:00 pm, the celebration officially kicked off. GUO Kanjun, Director of the International Office

and the Office of Hong Kong, Macao and Taiwan Affairs, attended the celebration and delivered a speech.

Later, Chinese and foreign teachers and students watched the video to celebrate the 120<sup>th</sup> anniversary of BNU. Over the past 120 years, with the patriotism and educational beliefs, generations of BNU people have practiced the motto of "learn, so as to instruct others; act, to serve as



example to all" and become creators and strivers in the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation. All the teachers and students present were moved.

The celebration includes a series of wonderful links planned carefully by combining the elements related to the anniversary, the Teachers' Day and the Mid-autumn Festival. During the Q&A link, Chinese and foreign students, especially international students and scholars, got familiar with the important knowledge about the history of BNU, the Teachers' Day and the Mid-autumn Festival.



The present teachers and students rushed to answer the questions, forming a very warm atmosphere.

In the story sharing link under the theme of "me and my students", Dr. Christoph Stahl from Germany shared the warm words of gratitude left by students in the book of works; Martin Wittenberg and LIN Yingzheng from America shared the efforts and progress of students and the warmth of classes through the VCR; Professor Simon Mahony (UK), Professor WANG Qingguo (Singapore) and Professor YU Hongnian (UK) shared their experience as teachers in different countries from different perspectives, as well as the happiness and gains from being a teacher.



"How long will the full moon appear? Wine cup in hand, I ask the sky".



Accompanied by the melodious ocarina performance, the recitation of the poem "Prelude To Water Melody - How Long Will the Full Moon Appear?" in English seemed to lead the guests into the environment with bright moon in the sky, making the festival atmosphere thicker.



Finally, the celebration ended in the best wishes that "So let us wish that man will live long as he can! Though miles apart, we'll share the beauty she displays", and the present guests made warm exchanges. The celebration provided a good opportunity for Chinese and foreign teachers and students to understand Chinese culture and BNU, and enhanced their sense of identity, honor and happiness as BNU people; it also offered a very good exchange platform for Chinese and foreign scholars, and enabled foreign teachers and international students to know, be friendly to and love China.



# "Welcome the Mid-autumn Festival, Celebrate the 120<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of BNU" - Beijing Normal University at Zhuhai Successfully Held the Garden Party for the 2022 Mid-autumn Festival

Article source: Official Website of BNU of Zhuhai | Release date: 2022-09-15

To celebrate the 120<sup>th</sup> anniversary of BNU, the 38<sup>th</sup> Teachers' Day and the Mid-autumn Festival, on the evening of September 10, the garden party for the 2022 Mid-autumn Festival under the theme of "Welcome the Mid-autumn Festival, Celebrate the 120<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of BNU" organized by the Students' Union of Beijing Normal University at Zhuhai, the Graduate Students' Union of Beijing Normal University at Zhuhai, and the Students' Union of Beijing Normal University, Zhuhai, was held at the campus of Beijing Normal University at Zhuhai, with more than 1,000 teachers and students gathering on the playground to celebrate the festival.

With the integration of inheritance and innovation, tradition and



modernism, the garden party for the 2022 Mid-Autumn Festival under the theme of "welcome the Mid-Autumn Festival, celebrate the 120<sup>th</sup> anniversary of BNU" consists of four experience modules, namely, traditional games, community presence, theatrical performance, and creative bazaar, deeply showing BNU's excellent

tradition of "patriotism and progress, honesty and simplicity, seeking truth and innovation, and being a model for others".

The sound of education spreads widely over the past 120 years; the celebration of the two festivals is so happy. The garden party for the 2022 Mid-autumn Festival under



the theme of "welcome the Mid-autumn Festival, celebrate the 120<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of BNU" promoted the heritage of the traditional culture of the Mid-autumn Festival by teachers and students in the campus, and wrote a good story of "prospering respectively and together"; on the occasion of the 38<sup>th</sup> Teachers' Day, it carried forward the good fashion of "respect and gratitude for



teachers"; it also positively responded to the theme of celebrating the 120<sup>th</sup> anniversary of BNU, and showed the sunny, positive, youthful and energetic campus image of BNU in South China.





# The Unveiling Ceremony of the Statue of HUANG Wenxiu Held at BNU at Zhuhai

Article source: Official Website of BNU of Zhuhai | Release date: 2022-09-06



On the morning of September 4<sup>th</sup>, the unveiling ceremony of the statue of HUANG Wenxiu was held at BNU at Zhuhai. LI Chong, Deputy Mayor of Zhuhai City, SUN Hongpei, Deputy Secretary of the Party Committee and Secretary of the Disciplinary Committee of BNU, WANG Shoujun, a member of the Standing Committee of the Party Committee and Vice President of BNU, LV Pinchang, the statue creator, Deputy Secretary of the Party Committee and Vice President of Jingdezhen Ceramic University, XI Enmin, Secretary of the Education Working Committee of Zhuhai Municipal Committee, Secretary of the Party Group and Director of the Municipal Education Bureau,

DENG Yang, Director of Baise Spiritual Civilization Office and representatives of teachers and students jointly unveiled the statue of HUANG Wenxiu. WANG Shoujun presided over the unveiling ceremony.

LI Chong said that Comrade HUANG Wenxiu was an outstanding alumna of BNU, and her advanced deeds vividly explained the original mission of the communists. As the vanguard of China's normal education, BNU took the lead in launching the "Ambitiousness Program" and actively undertook the national "Excellent Teacher Program", providing BNU solutions to China's educational problems. LI hoped that BNU at Zhuhai can continue to educate talents for the party and the

state, further leverage the advantages of BNU in disciplines, majors, and human resources, highlight the characteristics of teacher education, innovate the talent training model, and provide high-quality, professional and innovative teachers for the country's basic education. LI hoped that the school can further deepen its cooperation in Zhuhai education, and help weak schools in the western regions of Zhuhai City improve the quality and level of running schools, so as to jointly promote the high-quality development of Zhuhai's basic education teachers and make greater contributions to the development of Zhuhai's education.

SUN Hongpei said that Comrade HUANG Wenxiu was an excellent



LI Chong, Deputy Mayor of Zhuhai, delivered a speech



WANG Shoujun, a member of the Standing Committee of the Party Committee and Vice President of BNU, presided over the ceremony



SUN Hongpei, Deputy Secretary of the Party Committee and Secretary of the Disciplinary Committee of BNU, delivered a speech

representative of BNU who is unpretentious, tenacious, persistent, optimistic and positive, and interprets the school motto of "learning to be a teacher and acting as a world model" on the Long March in the new era. Setting up the statue of HUANG Wenxiu in BNU at Zhuhai is of extremely important significance to better study and implement the spirit of Chinese President XI Jinping's important speech and important instructions by all teachers and students, better implement the fundamental task of educating talents for the party and the state, and better build and develop BNU at Zhuhai. He said that BNU at Zhuhai is an important part of BNU's construction of a world-class university with Chinese characteristics, and also an important strategic support for serving national and local economic and social development. In the new course of development, teachers and students should keep in mind the earnest entrustment of Chinese President XI Jinping to BNU, learn from the model of the times, Comrade HUANG Wenxiu with practical actions, keep in mind the original intention, shoulder the mission bravely, and contribute to the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation.

WANG Shoujun said that on the occasion of the celebration of the 38<sup>th</sup> Teachers' Day and the 120<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of BNU, the school thoroughly studied and implemented Chinese President XI Jinping's important expositions on education, and held the unveiling ceremony of the statue of Wenxiu in BNU at Zhuhai to express high respect of Comrade HUANG Wenxiu's selfless dedication to the party and the country's great cause of poverty alleviation, guide the young people of the new era to learn from HUANG Wenxiu, keep in mind Chinese President XI Jinping's entrustment, have the courage to take responsibility, be willing to contribute, and strive to be a newcomer of the era that can bear important task of national rejuvenation.

In his speech, LV Pinchang thanked BNU for its trust and introduced the creation experience of HUANG Wenxiu's statue. This statue mainly reflects the image of Comrade HUANG Wenxiu from three aspects: action, affinity and charisma: "Wenxiu" wears a straw hat, carries a backpack, leans on branches in his hands, smiles, looks intently into the distance, and walks forward on a hill.

These extremely vivid details and actions interpret the vivid practice of Comrade HUANG Wenxiu on the road of poverty alleviation during her lifetime. LV Pinchang hoped that HUANG Wenxiu's statue can inspire more young students to stick to their original aspirations, go to the grassroots units, and make achievements where the country needs them.



LV Pinchang, Deputy Secretary of the Party Committee and Vice President of Jingdezhen Ceramic University, introduced the creation background

As the representative of HUANG Wenxiu's hometown, DENG Yang expressed his high respect and deep memory to Comrade HUANG Wenxiu, and his heartfelt thanks to Guangdong Province, Zhuhai City and BNU for their help and support to Guangxi and Baise. He said that he was very excited to see the statue of HUANG Wenxiu standing in BNU at Zhuhai.





DENG Yang, Director of Baise Spiritual Civilization Office, delivered a speech

He welcomed more students of BNU to Guangxi and Baise to make contributions, to show greater responsibility in the practice of serving the west region and the grassroots units, and to make new and greater contributions to accelerating the construction of a magnificent Guangxi and realizing the dream

of rejuvenation.

Members of the Management Committee of BNU at Zhuhai, responsible comrades of relevant units, and representatives of teachers and students attended the unveiling ceremony and presented flowers to the statue of HUANG Wenxiu.



Representatives of teachers and students recited the poem "Mountain Flowers Bloom with Fragrance Everywhere"

And played and sang "School Song of BNU"



# BNU Holds Special Sports Activity of Campus Youth Run

Article source: Communist Youth League Committee of BNU | Release date: 2022-09-14

On September 10<sup>th</sup>, the "Reunion at BNU on Its 120<sup>th</sup> Anniversary" -- BNU Special Sports Activity of Campus Youth Run, was held at the Haidian campus. On this beautiful day of both Teachers' Day and Mid-Autumn Festival, nearly 3,000 BNU students expressed their sincere wishes for the 120<sup>th</sup> anniversary of their alma mater with their youthful dynamism and smiles.



At 16:00PM, the loud singing of the top ten campus singers ignited the warm atmosphere of the playground. Students entered the venue in batches, and received number books, hairpins, fluorescent bracelets, etc. at the sign-in counter. The professional warm-up team guided them to warm up fully. As the first round of the starting gun

rang, hundreds of students set off happily, choosing one of the two running tasks, and draw a lottery after completion of the tasks. The first task is to run out the tracks of three numbers, "1", "2" and "0" in the campus; the second task is to run freely in the playground with a mileage of 1.20km. Through the Campus Youth Run, students

celebrated the anniversary of the school, and every number and every track contains blessings to the 120<sup>th</sup> anniversary of BNU.

From afternoon to evening and from sunset to moonrise, youthful running figures and volunteers "Little Bule" can be seen everywhere in the east playground and campus.







The youth playlists demanded by the students continued to be broadcast, and the host read the wishes and blessings of students from time to time. Based on the running tracks and mileage records, each youth runner drew a custom school celebration cultural and creative suit. The prizes included “120-year History of BNU”, “Promoting the Revitalization of the Country through Education”, and “Happy Together”, which respectively symbolized the 120<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the school, Teachers’ Day, and reunion at Mid-Autumn Festival. The students came excitedly and had rewarding experience. They took pictures to record their joys at that moment and their most youthful and beautiful appearance in the campus. They can also print their favorite photos directly in the interactive area as a souvenir.

On September 7<sup>th</sup>, General Secretary XI Jinping replied to the normal students under the Outstanding Teachers Program, encouraging

the students to waste no time and study hard, cultivate moral character. BNU students welcomed the 38<sup>th</sup> Teachers’ Day with full enthusiasm, vigorous posture and strong physique, and jointly presented gifts to the 120<sup>th</sup> anniversary of their alma mater.

The normal students’ heart of serving the country is unswerving, and promoting the revitalization of the country through education is passed on from generation to generation.



BNU students must live up to the great trust of the party and the people, consciously carry the banner of promoting the high-quality and balanced development of educational resources in China, run hard on the track of youth, and welcome the 20<sup>th</sup> National Congress of CPC with a high profile and excellent results, so as to achieve the best result of the young generation in the journey of the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation!



## The School Union Organized a Series of Activities for Faculty and Staff Associations Around the Theme of BNU Promoting the Revitalization of the Country Through Education in the 120-year History

Article source: Beijing Normal University Trade Union | Release date: 2022-04-28



In order to implement the spirit of Chinese President XI Jinping’s important speech on group work, strengthen the political, advanced and mass nature of trade union work, create a strong campus cultural atmosphere,

promote the physical and mental health of faculty and staff, and cultivate noble sentiments, since April, the school union has organized a series of activities for faculty and staff associations around the theme of BNU

promoting the revitalization of the country through education in the 120-year history, united and led faculty and staff to welcome the 20<sup>th</sup> National Congress of CPC with a good spirit and to celebrate the 120<sup>th</sup> anniversary of BNU!



From April 6<sup>th</sup> to April 27<sup>th</sup>, 15 faculty and staff associations organized 17 themed activities, including colorful, rich and elegant literary and artistic activities, and physical activities aiming to strengthen the body and relieve fatigue. The activities are creative and brilliant!



On April 7<sup>th</sup>, the Faculty and Staff Handicraft Association held the round fan production activity themed “Welcome the 120<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of BNU and Create a Better Life”. The ingeniously conceived round fans with different shapes symbolized a happy reunion and a beautiful family, and were presented as gifts for the 120<sup>th</sup> anniversary of BNU.



On April 9<sup>th</sup>, the Faculty and Staff Baby-friendly Association held a Go enlightenment activity to

let children and parents experience the charm of traditional culture. By carrying forward the quintessence of the country, promoting parent-child co-education for faculty and staff, and exchanging ideas and wisdom, the activity wished the 120<sup>th</sup> anniversary of BNU.



On the afternoon of April 16<sup>th</sup>, the Faculty and Staff Long-distance Running Association and the Youth Fitness Association jointly held the activity themed “Dynamic BNU ‘Running’ to Welcome the School Celebration”. During the “BNU•120” long-distance running, the teachers welcomed the 20<sup>th</sup> National Congress of CPC and the 120<sup>th</sup> anniversary of BNU with their full mental state and firm and powerful pace.



On April 17<sup>th</sup>, the Faculty and Staff Badminton Association held the fun activity and rising star competition of “Move Ahead Along with You and Badminton Accompanies You”. The teachers plastered the school celebration logo with feathers, and the white feathers merged into a pattern of “people, teachers, hundred and twenty”, symbolizing the fullness of the school’s wings by BNU people with their own strength.



On April 20<sup>th</sup>, the BNU Tai Chi Health Association and the Faculty and Staff Photography Association jointly held theme activity of “Towering BNU, Charming Tai Chi”. Teachers and

students danced Tai Chi together, exchanged their love of Tai Chi, strengthened their health, and cultivated their emotions, which demonstrated the positive outlook of teachers and students of BNU.

In addition, the Faculty and Staff Health Association, Yoga Association, Tea Art Association, Air Volleyball Association, Choir, Dynamic Bodybuilding Association, Reading Association, Painting and Calligraphy Association, etc. have also successively held various themed activities with rich contents, jointly presenting gifts to the 120<sup>th</sup> anniversary of BNU in their unique ways.

According to statistics, despite epidemic prevention and control and limited venues, a total of more than 1,100 people participated in the activities. These activities covered multi-level and diversified participants: faculty and staff, young and energetic students and childish and lovely kids. Relying on the platform of faculty and staff associations, they explored diverse interests and experienced a happy life.

The activities can neither be held orderly nor obtain fruitful results without the hard work of teachers. In addition to the members of the associations who actively participated in and supported activities, there were many dedicated event organizers – some of these teachers assumed multiple roles, not only participating in the preparatory work in the early stage, but also providing selfless services during the events; some carefully planned the details of the events and orderly arranged the event process to bring the best event experience.

April is the cruelest month. In this month, the faculty and staff association activity month themed “BNU has been promoting the revitalization of the country through education in the 120-year history” came to a successful conclusion. Let’s look forward to more exciting activities in the future. We welcome further attention and actively participation of the faculty and staff, to experience the good times, and present gifts to the 120<sup>th</sup> anniversary of BNU!



## Sincere Greetings

# Friendship Colleges and Institutions



### Stefania Giannini, UNESCO Assistant Director-General for Education

Dear Professor Ma Jun, the President of BNU,

Dear colleagues, dear friends, on the occasion of the 120<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the BNU, I am really delighted to convey my sincere grand congratulations to the entire BNU community for this extraordinary journey you have covered since 1902. BNU's commitment to learn so as to instruct others and to act to serve as an example to all is actually inspirational. It goes to the very heart of the university's mission, and it's more than ever relevant today as our world faces daunting and interconnected challenges, including to ensure inclusive and equitable quality education for all.

We need to work hand in hand to overcome social inequalities, increasing inequalities and educational disruptions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. We need to work hand in hand to ensure that all graduates in the world have the knowledge, the values, competences to contribute to peace and sustainable development.

And let me say honestly that the collaborative approach of BNU is implied by linkages with the over 300 institutions around the globe brings an important message to all of us:

We are stronger together.

From its earliest days, BNU has been a reference in teacher education and educational sciences. Your focus on research in the sciences and the humanities is key now in forging a new social content for education, one that is truly transformative, and contributes to advancing sustainable development all over the world.

This was the ambition actually of the 3<sup>rd</sup> World Conference on Higher Education as made in Barcelona, convened by UNESCO that set out a new road map for the new decade.

It emphasizes collaboration, transdisciplinary approaches and innovation to create more inclusive, open and equitable systems of education. It's the ambition of the Transforming Education Summit being convened by the UN Secretary-General this September to galvanize action at the highest political level.

Every transformation in society today needs a higher education. A university has had to play a key role in this process. I take this opportunity to thank BNU for hosting the International Research and Training Centre for Rural Education, INRULED, under the host pieces of UNESCO since 2008. It contributes to our joint commitment to social equity. And I also had the privilege to visit BNU in 2019 ahead of the International Conference on Artificial Intelligence & Education, organized two years in a row with instrumental support of BNU, I'm confident that our longstanding partnership will be further strengthen in the coming years for quality and inclusive higher education.

Once again, congratulations on your long tradition of excellence and service to society. May your dynamic institution continue to lead blossom and share. I'm sure. I wish you all a wonderful celebration.





Peter Salovey, President of Yale University

Hello, I'm Peter Salovey, President of Yale University. Thank you for inviting me to join you to celebrate BNU's 120th anniversary. This milestone is occurring during a moment of challenge and change in history. Therefore, I want to take this opportunity to discuss with you the mission of research universities. As the public health crisis underscores, the well-being and future of humanity hinge on our capacity to come together as a global community. No individual country of course is safe. If a virus is spreading in another part of the world, because ramifications of global threats like a pandemic or climate change transcend borders, our response must do so as well. Unfortunately, it is not easy for some sectors to work across national borders. However, integrative research universities can model international collaboration at a time when it is needed most. Throughout the course of the pandemic, universities have demonstrated that the open sharing of ideas around the world can produce extraordinary discoveries and solutions that save lives. For example, Yale helped to accelerate the pace of research by enabling scientists to share data and insights to learn from one another in real time. We posted on MedRxiv, the results of thousands of not-yet published COVID studies from around the globe. MedRxiv is a leading preprint server for health-related research. Yale, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory and BMJ, a global health-care knowledge provider, launched it a few years ago. Faculty members and clinicians from nearly every continent have been sharing research findings to speed up the development of vaccines, treatments and testing methods. In short, they're putting aside competition for the common good. Looking ahead, it behooves research universities to replicate this united response, as we address other pressing challenges, like climate change and infectious diseases. Here at Yale, I'm especially pleased by our collaborative efforts with our Chinese peers. This includes the research conducted by the Yale Child Study Center and BNU to enhance student performance and educational experience. International collaborations like ours leverage a century's old partnership to improve the world through joint research projects. And they have showcased the degree to which an integrative approach can catalyze innovation and fuel discovery. No one person, institution or nation alone can solve the crises we collectively face. As has been the case for hundreds of years, society will look to institutions of higher education for guidance and for answers in these uncertain times. I extend my gratitude to BNU for contributing knowledge and understanding to the world. And congratulations on your 120th anniversary. I wish you every success for another 120 years and beyond.

**Australia**  
Queensland University of Technology



21 June 2022

Professor MA Jun  
President  
Beijing Normal University  
Beijing 100875

Dear Professor Ma

On behalf of Queensland University of Technology (QUT), I would like to extend our warmest congratulations to Beijing Normal University (BNU) on the occasion of your 120th anniversary. Beijing Normal University has made impressive achievements in teaching, research and international collaboration since 1902, especially as a leading university in China in fields of Education, Psychology, Chinese language and history, Geosciences and Creative Products. QUT and BNU share common values with a global outlook and commitments to the community. I hope the COVID situation will be established as soon as possible, and we will have the opportunity to either welcome you to QUT in Brisbane or for me to visit Beijing Normal University in China again, when the international travel restrictions are eased in both China and Australia. I wish Beijing Normal University continued success and congratulations on this wonderful milestone.

Yours sincerely,

Professor Margaret Sheel AD  
Vice-Chancellor and President

**France**  
Aix-Marseille Université



International relations office

Dear President MA Jun,

Warmest greetings from Aix-Marseille University. Beijing Normal University is our highly esteemed partner in China. On this occasion, I would like to express my very best wishes and congratulations for your University's 120th anniversary celebration. We are very honoured to have you for this major event by extension of this letter. Our two institutions are long-standing partners and have fruitful exchanges of faculty and students for many years in the field of Education, Language and Culture. We cherish the relationship developed between your Chinese Language and Culture College and our Department of Chinese Studies. We are also delighted with our student exchange program with your Law School, Business School and Music College. I would like to express my deepest gratitude for your valuable support over the years and the fruitful collaboration with your Schools and Departments, as well as your team in charge of international affairs. We have all been facing a period of challenges and uncertainties over the past two years. However, we, at Aix-Marseille University, are absolutely grateful and motivated to keep on building solid relationships, based on mutual trust, respect and experience sharing with our valued partners. Although our studies will be suspended for the time being, I would like to reiterate our willingness to strengthen the cooperation between our two universities in the coming future. Congratulations again for BNU's 120th anniversary!

Yours sincerely,

Prof. Eric BERTON  
President

**Italy**  
Istituto Universitario Orientale di NAPOLI



意大利那不勒斯東方大學  
北京師範大學 120 周年校慶

親愛、久別以學禮慶。  
親友、久別以學禮慶。  
一百二十年、悠遠之史也。  
史光輝、輝之集、門之草履也。  
於其一百二十年輝煌之際。  
意大里亞大學祝北京師範大學  
萬事天下皆歡。

那不勒斯東方大學校長  
Roberto Totip, 教授

**Croatia**  
University of Zagreb



Beijing Normal University  
Professor MA Jun  
President

July 13<sup>th</sup> 2022

Dear President Professor MA Jun,

On behalf of the University of Zagreb and my own behalf, I would like to congratulate you and all of your employees and students on such a landmark event as the 120<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Beijing Normal University.

The centennial journey of Beijing Normal University was marked by hard work and commitment, transformation and reform, creative education and noble devotion to education and science. During this period the University has become one of the most prestigious and renowned higher education institutions in the country.

Beijing Normal University today is a modern academic institution and it implements most demanded educational programmes, offers numerous opportunities for science and research in many important areas.

We are happy that there is a smooth running academic exchange process between our universities and our partnership is strong. We hope that this fruitful cooperation will continue.

Dear professor MA, we wish you and the Beijing Normal University all the best in your way to future challenges, success in your mission and much enthusiasm for the new breakthroughs and achievements.

Yours sincerely,

Professor Danijel Banić  
Rector  
University of Zagreb

**Germany**  
Universität Hannover



Prof. Dr. Cornelia Meixner  
Vizepräsidentin für internationale Beziehungen

On behalf of the University of Hannover, I would like to express my warmest wishes and congratulations to Beijing Normal University on the occasion of your 120th anniversary. It is a great honor for us to receive a letter of appreciation from you for your past work and success. We welcome your students and researchers to visit our university and we look forward to maintaining this relationship in the future.

With the 120th anniversary of Beijing Normal University, we wish you every success for another 120 years and beyond.

Yours sincerely,

Prof. Dr. Cornelia Meixner  
Vizepräsidentin für internationale Beziehungen

Dear Mr. Ma Jun, President of Beijing Normal University,

I am delighted to hear that you have been appointed as the President of Beijing Normal University in May this year. As the current President of the University of Macerata, on behalf of all the faculty and staff of our school, I would like to take this letter to express my warm congratulations to you.

2022 is the 120th anniversary of your school. The University of Macerata in the distant region of Apennine sends the most sincere wishes to your university, and to all the teachers, students and staff of your school, as well as the vast number of alumni at home and abroad.

Beijing Normal University is a world-renowned high-level university with profound cultural heritage and a long history of running schools. The University of Macerata, which also has an ancient history, has a long-term friendly cooperative relationship with Beijing Normal University. In the past, we have cooperated and moved forward side by side, and have made extraordinary achievements in talent training, cultural exchanges, teaching and scientific research, looking forward to the present. I believe that our two universities will further enhance friendship, strengthen cooperation, and go hand in hand. We will gain new achievements in all fields.

On the occasion of this grand celebration, we firmly believe that your school will inherit the past achievements and create brilliant future. We are sure you will carry forward the tradition, pioneer and innovate, keep pace with the times, and make new and greater achievements on the road of building a world-class university with Chinese characteristics!

I wish the 120th anniversary celebration of Beijing Normal University a complete success!

Yours sincerely,

Francesco Altomare  
Rector of the University of Macerata

Dear President MA,

On behalf of the entire community of the Alma Mater Studiorum - University of Bologna, I wish to send you my warmest congratulations on the occasion of the 120<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Beijing Normal University.

Beijing Normal University is considered one of the most prestigious universities in your country and has several academic relationships with international partners. Indeed, our university shares a long-standing bond that has provided our students and staff with great exchange opportunities. In particular, the agreement between the University of Bologna School of Law and BNU School of Law & College of Criminal Science is worth a mention.

Our institutions have enjoyed the benefits of a successful partnership for almost two years, since the conclusion of the first agreement in 2014. I hope and wish that the collaboration between Beijing Normal University and the Alma Mater Studiorum - University of Bologna can continue with similar effectiveness and fruitfulness in the years to come.

Let me congratulate you again for your 120<sup>th</sup> anniversary and wish you good luck for your future academic achievements.

Best wishes,

**Finland**  
University of Helsinki



June 29, 2022

Professor Ma Jun  
President of Beijing Normal University

Dear Professor Ma,

On behalf of the whole community of the University of Helsinki, I would like to express my warmest congratulations on the 120<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Beijing Normal University.

Beijing Normal University is a very valued partner of the University of Helsinki. Especially our joint efforts in developing teaching and learning in the framework of the Sino-Finnish Adult Learning Innovation Institute (SAILII) and the new Global Innovation Network for Teaching and Learning (GINTEL) are excellent platforms for co-operation, and I would like to express our continued commitment to fostering our productive and successful collaboration in the future as well.

Anniversaries bring the opportunity of cherishing the great accomplishments of the past that are the basis of excellence in research and teaching today. We congratulate you on the great achievements so far. May the future bring continued health, happiness and success to all the staff and students of Beijing Normal University!

I wish you the best of success in all your efforts during your anniversary year and hope to meet you soon in person.

Yours sincerely,

Kari Lindblom

**University of Ludwigshafen**



Dear President MA Jun,

On behalf of the University of Ludwigshafen, I would like to express my warmest wishes and congratulations to Beijing Normal University on the occasion of your 120th anniversary. It is a great honor for us to receive a letter of appreciation from you for your past work and success. We welcome your students and researchers to visit our university and we look forward to maintaining this relationship in the future.

With the 120th anniversary of Beijing Normal University, we wish you every success for another 120 years and beyond.

Yours sincerely,

Prof. Dr. Cornelia Meixner  
Vizepräsidentin für internationale Beziehungen



Dear President MA,

On behalf of the entire community of the Alma Mater Studiorum - University of Bologna, I wish to send you my warmest congratulations on the occasion of the 120<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Beijing Normal University.

Beijing Normal University is considered one of the most prestigious universities in your country and has several academic relationships with international partners. Indeed, our university shares a long-standing bond that has provided our students and staff with great exchange opportunities. In particular, the agreement between the University of Bologna School of Law and BNU School of Law & College of Criminal Science is worth a mention.

Our institutions have enjoyed the benefits of a successful partnership for almost two years, since the conclusion of the first agreement in 2014. I hope and wish that the collaboration between Beijing Normal University and the Alma Mater Studiorum - University of Bologna can continue with similar effectiveness and fruitfulness in the years to come.

Let me congratulate you again for your 120<sup>th</sup> anniversary and wish you good luck for your future academic achievements.

Best wishes,

Dear President MA,

On behalf of the entire community of the Alma Mater Studiorum - University of Bologna, I wish to send you my warmest congratulations on the occasion of the 120<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Beijing Normal University.

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Let me congratulate you again for your 120<sup>th</sup> anniversary and wish you good luck for your future academic achievements.

Best wishes,



University of Turin

Congratulatory Message from Rector Stefano Geuna, University of Turin



It is with great pleasure that I extend my warmest congratulations for the 120th anniversary of Beijing Normal University.



Japan Aichi Shukutoku University



祝賀文を以て敬賀申し上げます。北北経済大学創立120周年に際して、愛知師範大学より心からのご慶賀申し上げます。

2022年、北北経済大学との交流関係は、2004年から現在にいたるまで本学の学生と貴校との間にあり、同時に北北経済大学から北北の学生が来学してきています。

「遠くを共に生きる」という本学の教育理念への理解が、貴大との交流を通じて、相互の学生の間に醸成されてきています。

以上のようにならざるを得ない状況にある貴大が、築かれつつある北北120周年を機に、今後とも貴大の発展を願っております。

高田修三

Japan Department of Education and Research, Tohoku University



Dear President MA, On behalf of the Graduate School of Education, Tohoku University, I would like to extend my most sincere congratulations to Beijing Normal University on this historic occasion of your 120th anniversary.

Including the conclusion of our academic exchange agreement in 2013, Tohoku University and Beijing Normal University have been sustaining excellent academic cooperation. Especially, we deeply appreciate your great efforts and students' active participations in the Asia Joint-degree Project.

As a prestigious university, BNU has not only made great academic achievements in recent years, but also nurtured numerous talents who are active in the international arena.

Once again, please receive my warmest congratulations and best wishes for your 120th anniversary.

Kazuhito Noguchi, Dean, Graduate School of Education, Tohoku University

Dokkyo University



March 31, 2022

Dear President of Beijing Normal University

On behalf of Dokkyo University, I would like to extend my warmest congratulations on the 120th anniversary of Beijing Normal University. Dokkyo University values greatly its working with BNU, one of China's greatest institutions with long-standing achievements.

Sincerely yours,

Professor Naohiko Yanagi, President, Dokkyo University

Kobe University

Dr. Ma Jun, President, Beijing Normal University

Dear President Ma,

On behalf of Kobe University, I would like to express my heartfelt congratulations to Beijing Normal University on the occasion of your 120th anniversary.

We are very grateful for the many opportunities we have had to collaborate with you around academic exchange and other matters since the commencement of our partnership in 1986.

In closing, I would like to congratulate Beijing Normal University once again upon reaching this significant milestone, which I hope will be followed by further progress in the future.

Yours sincerely,

Masao Fujimura, President, Kobe University

Kyoto University

President Ma Jun, Beijing Normal University

Dear President Ma Jun,

On behalf of Kyoto University, it is a great pleasure to extend my warmest congratulations to you and your colleagues on the occasion of Beijing Normal University's 120th anniversary.

Over the course of its long history, BNU has firmly established its position as one of China's most highly respected and highly ranked research institutions.

Once again, please accept my most sincere congratulations on Beijing Normal University's 120th anniversary, and my very best wishes for your continued success.

Sincerely yours,

Yoshiko Inoue, President, International Affairs, and External Affairs

Osaka University



Prof. Jun MA, President, Beijing Normal University

29 June 2022

Dear President MA,

On behalf of Osaka University, I would like to express my sincerest congratulations to Beijing Normal University for a distinguished 120 years of leadership in education and research.

I am also delighted to hear about your new appointment as President of BNU. I would like to extend my warmest congratulations to you on your new position.

We are grateful that BNU and OCU have been in a partnership for more than 20 years. We thank you for your longstanding support and sincerely hope that our partnership will continue and grow stronger in the coming years.

Once again, please accept my heartfelt congratulations on BNU's 120th anniversary and your new appointment. I wish you the best for the success, fulfillment, and good health of you and everyone at BNU.

Yours sincerely, Shiroe, President, NIIIEKO Studies, P.O.

Otsu Women's University

Otsu Women's University, 1-2 Sakurayama, Otsu-shi, Osaka, Japan

北京師範大学建校 120周年賀辞

貴校が創立120周年を迎え、我々代表日本女学院大学、向東校の全体教職員、同校の各校の先生方及び同校卒業生から心より敬意を表します。

Yours sincerely, 日本女学院理事長・女学院大学校長 伊藤正道

Japan Tohoku University Faculty of Arts and Sciences



Dear President Ma Jun

July 4, 2022

On behalf of Tohoku University, I would like to congratulate everyone at Beijing Normal University on your 120th anniversary.

Tohoku University Graduate School of Arts and Letters and Beijing Normal University School of Chinese Language and Literature and Department of Literature have maintained an excellent cooperative relationship since the conclusion of our first academic exchange agreement in 2018.

I send you best wishes and hope that from now on BNU will continue to thrive and develop. We look forward to BNU and Tohoku University working together even more closely in the future.

Sincerely yours, Yoshiaki Yonogidaira, Tohoku University

Netherlands Leiden University

Beijing Normal University, President Prof. Ma Jun

Number: 276437666, Date: 28 June 2022

Dear President Ma Jun,

First of all, a heartfelt congratulations to you, the board and the academic community of Beijing Normal University on your 120th anniversary.

Furthermore, I would like to thank you very much for your very kind words. From Leiden University we also feel honored to have Beijing Normal University with its research-intensive and broad university profile amongst our important international partners.

I sincerely wish the board, the staff and the academic community of Beijing Normal University much joy and pleasure with the many festive events in this entire year to mark this special 120th anniversary.

Russia Blagoveshchensk State Pedagogical University



Ministry of Education of the Russian Federation, Blagoveshchensk State Pedagogical University

Dear Prof. Ma Jun,

It gives me the great pleasure to write this letter and convey our warm and sincere congratulations on behalf of Blagoveshchensk State Pedagogical University on the occasion of Beijing Normal University's 120th anniversary.

Beijing Normal University is one of the oldest and most prestigious universities in China and is renowned internationally as one of China's foremost academic institutions.

I would like this opportunity to also congratulate President Prof. MA Jun on becoming a new president of Beijing Normal University. I believe that his outstanding leadership qualities will bring even greater success and prosperity to BNU.

Best regards, Vera Shchekina, Rector

Romania West University of Timisoara



„Claselorilor noastre gelozii si iubitoarelor bazele!”

Am simțit nevoia să vă scriu aceste câteva rânduri pentru a vă felicita și să vă spun că vă admirăm și vă respectăm foarte mult. În fiecare an vă admirăm și vă respectăm foarte mult pentru că sunteți una dintre cele mai mari universități din lume și pentru că vă consacrați din toată inima și din toată forța pentru a fi cea mai bună universitate din lume.

Claselor noastre gelozii si iubitoarelor bazele!

Prof. A. Gheorghe, Rector, West University of Timisoara

Novosibirsk State Pedagogical University



Глубокоуважаемый господин президент Ма Чжун,

Разрешите поприветствовать Вас и поздравить Пекинский педагогический университет с важным юбилеем – со 120-летием.

Пользуясь случаем, хотел бы поздравить Вас лично со вступлением в должность Президента Пекинского педагогического университета.

Ваша работа, что Ваш университет является нашим партнером в рамках Китайско-российского союза высших педагогических учебных заведений и надеюсь на продолжение нашего диалога и дальнейшего сотрудничества.

Господин Ма Чжун, я хотел бы выразить искреннюю признательность за развитие дружеских связей и контактов между нашими вузами.

Poland University of Warsaw

The Ministry of Education of the Russian Federation, Novosibirsk State Pedagogical University

Dear president Ma Jun,

My warmest greetings on the 120th anniversary of Beijing Normal University! Your university is celebrating this important date having a long history of sustainable development, strong positions in humanities, technological innovations and pedagogical sciences.

Let me congratulate you personally in the position of new President of Beijing Normal University. You are a recognized specialist in the field of university education administration and training qualified teachers for your country.

Modern training for the teachers and talented young leaders in education is a priority for your university. Teaching profession is of a great importance throughout the years and especially nowadays.

President Ma Jun, my warmest gratitude to you for the friendship and international collaboration between Beijing Normal University and Novosibirsk State Pedagogical University.

Prof. A. Gheorghe, Rector

Chelyabinsk State Pedagogical University

Наша самая дорогая Ма Чжун!

В этот знаменательный день поздравляю Вас с наступлением столетия своего вуза – 120-летия от дня основания Челябинского педагогического университета.

Ваша работа, что Ваш университет является нашим партнером в рамках Китайско-российского союза высших педагогических учебных заведений и надеюсь на продолжение нашего диалога и дальнейшего сотрудничества.

С уважением, Татьяна Чухарева, Rector, Chelyabinsk State Pedagogical University

Dear Mr. Ma Jun,

On this remarkable day, let me congratulate you on a significant and important date – the 120th anniversary of the founding of Beijing Normal University.

Beijing Normal University is not only the oldest higher education institution in the People's Republic of China, but also the guardian of the traditions of upholding education and culture of excellent pedagogical specialists.

Your graduates proudly bring knowledge into the world and they are in high demand not only in China, but also abroad.

With all my heart, I wish you and the staff of your university prosperity, international recognition, achievement of new goals, but most importantly - smart, passionate, hardworking, talented and ambitious students.

With deep respect, Svetlana Chumachenko, Rector of South Ural State Humanities Pedagogical University



Moscow State Pedagogical University



Slovenia University of Ljubljana



South Korea Korea Education Development Institute

Announcement of the 120th anniversary of the Korean Educational Development Institute in Chinese, including a congratulatory letter from the President.

Plekhanov Russian University of Economics

Announcement of the 120th anniversary of Plekhanov Russian University of Economics in Chinese, including a congratulatory letter from the Rector.

Announcement of the 120th anniversary of Plekhanov Russian University of Economics in Chinese, including a congratulatory letter from the President.

Korea University

Announcement of the 120th anniversary of Korea University in Chinese, including a congratulatory letter from the President.

Tomsk State Pedagogical University

Announcement of the 120th anniversary of Tomsk State Pedagogical University in Chinese, including a congratulatory letter from the Rector.

Announcement of the 120th anniversary of Tomsk State Pedagogical University in Chinese, including a congratulatory letter from the Rector.

Yonsei University

Announcement of the 120th anniversary of Yonsei University in Chinese, including a congratulatory letter from the President.

Singapore Nanyang Technological University

Announcement of the 120th anniversary of Nanyang Technological University in Chinese, including a congratulatory letter from the President.

Switzerland University of Zurich

Announcement of the 120th anniversary of the University of Zurich in Chinese, including a congratulatory letter from the President.

U.K. King's College London

Announcement of the 120th anniversary of King's College London in Chinese, including a congratulatory letter from the President.

Spain University of Barcelona

Announcement of the 120th anniversary of the University of Barcelona in Chinese, including a congratulatory letter from the President.

U.K. University College London

Announcement of the 120th anniversary of University College London in Chinese, including a congratulatory letter from the President.

Canada Dawson College

Announcement of the 120th anniversary of Dawson College in Chinese, including a congratulatory letter from the President.

U.S. College of William and Mary

Announcement of the 120th anniversary of the College of William and Mary in Chinese, including a congratulatory letter from the President.

U.S. Bloomsburg University of Pennsylvania

Announcement of the 120th anniversary of Bloomsburg University of Pennsylvania in Chinese, including a congratulatory letter from the President.

U.S. Tufts University

Announcement of the 120th anniversary of Tufts University in Chinese, including a congratulatory letter from the President.



# Piao Yongxin, the Pioneer of Special Education in New China's Higher Normal Schools: Popularize Special Education for Every One That Should Receive Special Education

Article source: Beijing News | Release date: 2022-09-09

How to evaluate the development of special education in China? Piao Yongxin described it in one sentence: 70 years ago, we were not in the ranks of the international special education cause, but now, we can move forward in parallel with other countries in this ranks.

Piao Yongxin has many firsts—trained the first batch of special education undergraduates and post-graduates in China, wrote the first set of special education textbooks, founded the first special education major in Chinese universities, and filled the blank of special education in higher normal education.....

“I called my first phase of students the ‘Huangpu Phase 1’ and the first five phase of students were the ‘Huangpu 108 Generals’. Many of them are still working in the frontline of special education,



Professor Piao Yongxin, founder of the Department of Special Education at BNU. Photo by Beijing News reporter LI Muyi

and some have become professors and principals.” On the morning of September 5, Piao Yongxin accepted an exclusive interview with a reporter from the Beijing News. When he mentioned his former students, his eyes were full of smiles.

During the “First Five-Year Plan” period, in response to the country’s

need for special education teachers, Piao Yongxin and his classmate Yin Chunming went to the Soviet Union to study special education. In 1961, graduated from the Department of Special Education of Moscow State Lenin Pedagogical Institute (now Moscow State Pedagogical University). After returning to China, Piao Yongxin devoted himself to the cause of

special education for more than half a century.

Piao Yongxin, although aged 87, has clear thinking and careful logic when he recalls the hardships of founding the special education profession, and talks about policy changes....

Piao Yongxin witnessed the development and reform of China’s special education cause. In his words, he mentioned the word “equality” many times. Piao Yongxin believes that the most important thing for special education teachers is to love the profession, respect and love children.

How to evaluate the development of special education in China? He described it in one sentence: 70 years ago, we were not in the ranks of the international special education cause, but now, we can move forward in parallel with other countries in this ranks.

## Studying special education in the Soviet Union in response to national needs

**Beijing News:** After the founding of New China, a thousand things wait to be done, and the special education industry is in urgent need of professional teachers. As early as in the “First Five-Year Plan” period, you were sent to study in the Soviet Union. What was the situation of special education in China at that time?

**Piao Yongxin:** In 1948, the last “Education Yearbook” issued by the Kuomintang government mentioned that there were 42 special education schools in China at that time, and 360 teachers engaged in special education. In old China, special education was not an important part of the system of colleges and universities, middle schools and primary schools, but was classified as social education, provided by churches and welfare institutions, and was of charity and relief nature. Among the 42 schools at that time, there were only one national special education school and seven municipal special education schools.

In 1951, Premier Zhou Enlai signed the Decision on the Reform of the School System, which made special education an important part of the national education system of the New China. This is a fundamental change.

Today, according to data released by the Ministry of Education, in 2021, there will be 2,288 special education schools nationwide, with nearly 70,000 full-time special education teachers. Taking colleges and universities as an example, there are 23 colleges and universities in China that specialize in recruiting disabled people, such as the Special Education College of Beijing Union University, the School of Special Education of Changchun University, and the Technical College for the Deaf,

Tianjin University of Technology. These data are relatively high in the world.

**Beijing News:** According to previous reports, you studied four special education majors when you were studying in the Soviet Union?

**Piao Yongxin:**

“ In the “First Five-Year Plan” period, the state proposed to establish a special education major in colleges and universities. We were sent to study in the Soviet Union and expected to build special education major in universities when we came back to China. Because no universities had this major in China at that time, foreign universities had this major. ”



In 1956, Yin Chunming and I went to study special education at the Moscow State Lenin Pedagogical Institute. The Soviet Union had four special education majors for the deaf, the mentally handicapped, the speech-impaired, and the blind, but we were only two persons. In fact, we can choose to study a special education major, and then choose a general education major in mathematics or language. But I think, we should learn all the things taught by the university, so that we can use them when we return to China.

After discussion, we decided to give up the general education majors and only study the special education major. In the first year, I learned the first-grade knowledge from the special education major for the deaf. After I was promoted to the second grade, I learned the second-grade knowledge of the special education for the deaf and the first-grade knowledge of another special education major. In this way, in the fourth year, I applied for a business trip to Leningrad, where I studied special education for the blind. In this way, we studied abroad for five years and learned all four majors.

After returning to China, I could have directly returned to BNU to construct the special education major, but I chose to first go to the front-line for practice, and then return to the university. So, I entered the Beijing Second School for the Deaf to engage in front-line teaching.



More than 30 years ago, Piao Yongxin took pictures in front of Marx's tomb in London, England, which was a place he admired for a long time. Photo provided by the interviewee

academic qualifications, and good schools will recruit graduate students to teach in the field of special education.

But when we first started the teaching work, there were no teaching standards or outlines. At that time, we lacked teachers, so we went to the street office to ask if there were any unemployed people who came to register and look for work. We recruited those who were suitable to the school as teachers. We did not expect them to teach, and we just wish that they can watch the children. At that time, teachers included junior high school graduates and housewives.

In this environment, we gradually started our teaching work, and we stayed there for nearly 20 years. During this period, I also did a lot of popular science and research work, making some contributions to the first-line schools.

Until the end of the "Cultural Revolution", I proposed to go back to colleges and universities to build a special education major, because the country had always had this need. BNU and the Ministry of Education were very supportive at that time. In 1979, I was officially transferred to BNU. In fact, since the 1950s, the country has favored the treatment of special education teachers, which was 15% higher than that of ordinary teachers. After I was transferred to BNU, my salary was reduced by two levels (laughs). But I thought that I would not give

up even if my salary was reduced, and I can build a special education position in colleges and universities.

**Beijing News:** You have promoted the special education cause to complete a number of breakthroughs from "0" to "1" in terms of professional construction and textbook editing. What difficulties did you encounter in this course?

**Piao Yongxin:** To be honest, I was bold enough. Pedagogy, psychology, and history of education are the main subjects of education majors. In 1986, BNU established a special education major. When I recruited students, I didn't even have a textbook (wry smile).

I was the only one who designed professional courses. For the three professional courses of special education, special psychology, and special education history, I can't compile all the professional textbooks so quickly, so I can only make an outline and teach the students in person. I taught all these three professional courses by myself.

At that time, there were not only no textbooks, but also no office. Later, a desk was placed for me in the office of the dean of the department. Each day, I cleaned up the office in the morning, and when the dean of the department was working, I went to work in the library. In this way, I gradually compiled the lecture notes and teaching materials.

**Beijing News:** Was it difficult to recruit students when the special

education major was just established?

**Park Young-shin:** Yes. Among the first batch of 15 students enrolled in the special education major of BNU, few applied for this major as their first choice. Seeing that the name of the major is "special education", some students asked, "Does it specialize in training special-grade senior teachers?", and some asked, "Does it train secret agents?" (laughs)

There were also students who were willing to come, but their family members did not agree. I remember a girl. The family members of her boyfriend said, "If you study this major, you have to break up". So she had no choice but to give up. There was indeed a difficult process.

At that time, there was still a deep misunderstanding of the disabled in the society. After the students were recruited, we first make ideological education for admission and popularize relevant theories for them, to let them understand the content of special education and the responsibilities of special education teachers.

I required students to go to welfare homes and special education schools to observe the lives and studies of the disabled on the spot and to inspire the enthusiasm of the young people. I told them, if you want to reclaim virgin land, special education was a new discipline. Many of them are still engaged in special education.

### There was "difficulty in recruiting" at the beginning of the establishment of the special education major

**Beijing News:** What are the differences between the front-line special education situation in the 1960s and now?

**Piao Yongxin:** Now the recruitment of teachers is standardized and teachers are required to love their work and have knowledge, etc.

These are clearly required in the documents issued by the Ministry of Education. In addition, there are high requirements for teachers'



## Hope to build special education discipline theory with Chinese characteristics

**Beijing News:** What important development stages of special education have you witnessed?

**Piao Yongxin:**

“ In 1988, the First National Special Education Work Conference put forward the policy of "developing education for the disabled, combining popularization and improvement, and focusing on popularization", which clarified the development direction for the establishment of a special education system suitable for China's national conditions. ”

According to the spirit of this meeting, special education schools, special education classes affiliated to ordinary schools, and attending classes in ordinary schools became the three main forms of schooling for disabled children and adolescents in China.

I remember that at that meeting, during the resolution period, I put forward two opinions. First, special education should not be limited to

primary education, and second, special education should not only target at the three categories: the blind, the deaf, and the mentally handicapped. It should cover those with emotional disorders, language obstacles and so on. And the state adopted my opinions.

In 1998, LI Lanqing, a member of the Standing Committee of the Political Bureau of the CPC Central Committee and Vice Premier of the State Council, mentioned in his congratulatory speech at the Third National Congress of the China Disabled Persons' Federation that "there were disabled people as early as there were human beings". This means that in the social development, so long as there are human beings, there are disabled people. They are also equal people, and have rights and obligations. This is the theoretical basis of our special education construction.

The important thing I have learned from my decades of special education work is how we should regard and treat disabled people. This is a very important issue in the development of special education.

From a legal point of view, the Constitution of the People's Republic of China revised in 1982 specifically reflected the concern for the disabled and special education:

“ The state and society help to arrange the labor, life and education of blind, deaf, dumb and other disabled citizens ” . The inclusion of special education in the Constitution provided the basis for various future laws.

From the point of view of the party's documents, the 17<sup>th</sup> CPC National Congress wrote "caring about special education" into the report for the first time. Later, the reports of the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> CPC National Congresses proposed to "support special education" and "run special education schools well", which inspired the people engaged in special education nationwide. Although special education teachers are a small group, their status has improved. They can be seen in some major conferences and teacher selection and appraisal activities of the party and the state.

**Beijing News:** What barriers need to be broken through in the high-quality development of special education?

**Piao Yongxin:** I think a lot about the formation of special education with Chinese characteristics. I went to the United Kingdom, Israel, and the United States to participate in special education conferences and forums. As a worker in the field of special education in China, I have been able to participate in international discussions on an equal footing. However, at present, we are still talking about foreign theories in many cases, since we have not formed an internationally recognized special education subject theory with Chinese characteristics.

Practice is blind without theoretical support. Our colleges and universities with special education major should bear the responsibility of not only training special education teachers, but also conducting theoretical research.

In addition, in the special education major, as the disabled enter middle schools, high schools, and even colleges and universities, we should pay attention to the subject education in special education. For example, high school mathematics, geography, and physics for deaf students cannot be taught by teachers who graduated from deaf schools, and teachers in blind schools only know Braille and cannot teach these subjects

either. It is also necessary to research on how to integrate subject education and special education in higher education.

I have also been concerned about special education in minority areas and encouraged students to go to Southwest China and Xinjiang. Just like poverty elimination, we should popularize special education for every one that should receive special education.



Original link:

<https://m.bjnews.com.cn/detail/1662688046168295.html?shareuser=160439218412507>



# BNU Researchers Call for Mitigating Impact of Dryland Urbanization on Biodiversity

Article source: Xinhua; Chinadaily | Release date: 2022-08-22

Chinese researchers have called for strategic management to mitigate the substantial global impact of dryland urban expansion on biodiversity, revealing that almost 60 percent of threatened species have been affected by the indirect impacts of such expansion.

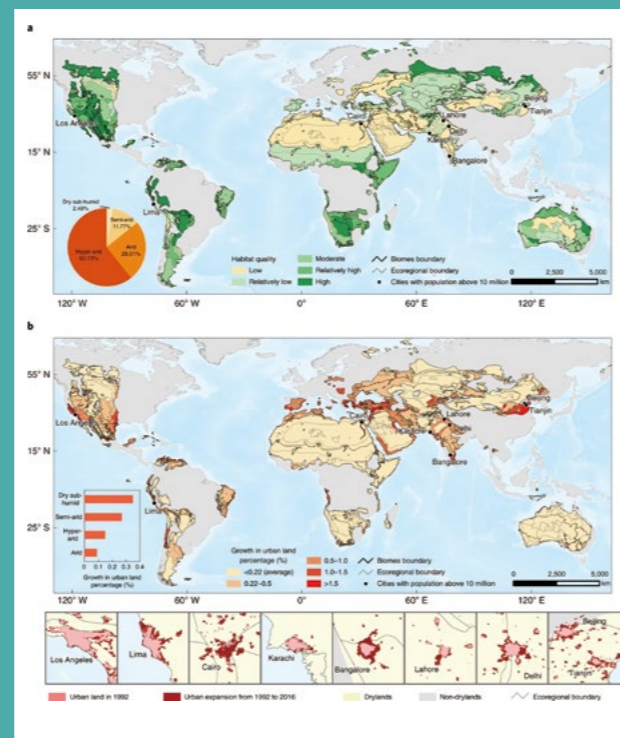
The scientists from the BNU issued their call in a research article published in the journal Nature Sustainability.

In order to comprehensively investigate the impact of urban expansion on natural dryland habitats around the world, the researchers quantified the loss of habitat quality that has been directly and indirectly caused by dryland urban expansion.

They defined direct impacts as the conversion of natural habitats to urban land, while indirect impacts were defined as proximate impacts within 10 km around the expanded urban land footprint.

They found that, although urban expansion from 1992 to 2016 resulted in an average 0.8 percent loss of dryland habitat quality, the indirect impacts were more than 10 times greater.

Urban expansion had the greatest impact on the dryland habitats of mangrove biomes, followed by temperate



broadleaf and mixed forest biomes, Mediterranean forest, woodland and shrub communities, according to China Science Daily.

Urban regions across the world have expanded rapidly in recent decades, affecting fragile natural habitats including drylands, the research article noted.

<https://www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202208/17/WS62fc47b9a310fd2b29e72a8a.html>

<https://www.nature.com/articles/s41893-022-00930-8>

# Associate Professor YANG Yun from GCESS Published the Latest Research Result in Nature Climate Change

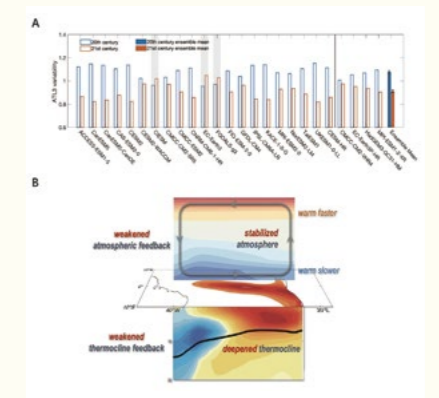
Article source: College of Global Change and Earth System Science (GCESS) | Release date: 2022-09-02

On September 1<sup>st</sup>, Nature Climate Change published online the latest research result entitled “Suppressed Atlantic Niño/Niña variability under greenhouse warming”. The result was jointly obtained by Associate Professor YANG Yun from BNU and several research teams from Ocean University of China, the Center for Southern Hemisphere Oceans Research (CSHOR) and the Institute of Oceanography, Chinese Academy of Sciences.

An Atlantic Niño/Niña is an El Niño/La Niña phenomenon that occurs in the Atlantic Ocean and is characterized by anomalous warming/cooling of sea surface temperature (SST) in the eastern equatorial Atlantic during summer (June–August). The Atlantic Niño event can not only regulate local rainfall, but also lead to less rainfall in the Indian monsoon region through the atmospheric teleconnection process, and stimulate the Pacific La Niña event. Therefore, Atlantic Niño/Niña greatly affects the global climate system and the sustainable development of human society and economy. It is of great scientific and social significance to explore its changes under greenhouse warming.

Using CMIP6 multi-model data and CESM-HR high-resolution coupled model data of the International High-Resolution Earth System Prediction Laboratory, the study found that greenhouse warming will significantly suppress Atlantic Niño/Niña variability and reduce extreme events (Figure A). After greenhouse warming, the equatorial Atlantic atmosphere becomes more stable, weakening the response of the equatorial wind field to the east-west SST gradient abnormality. Furthermore, the weakening of the equatorial trade winds leads to a deepening of the thermocline in the east of the equator, reducing the SST response to thermocline changes. Under the combined action of the two, the Bjerknes mechanism is weakened, which in turn leads to suppressed Atlantic Niño/Niña variability (Figure B). This finding is in stark contrast to the Pacific Niño/Niña and strong Indian Ocean Dipole variability is significantly enhanced after greenhouse warming.

This result is another important research result in the tropical Atlantic based on YANG Yun’s discovery in 2021 that



greenhouse warming leads to enhanced climate variability in the tropical North Atlantic (Yang et al. 2021, Science Advances). Nature Climate Change News & Views published a special review article, believing that this result is of great significance to understand the impact of greenhouse warming on the climate system.

Figure: Suppressed Atlantic Niño/Niña Variability and Its Physical Mechanisms. (A) Multi-model 20<sup>th</sup>- century (blue-edged bars) and 21<sup>st</sup>-century (red-edged bars) Atlantic Niño/Niña variability, with multi-model averaged 20<sup>th</sup>-century and 21<sup>st</sup>-century results represented as blue and red filled bars, respectively. (B) Schematic illustration of the mechanism of suppressed Atlantic Niño/Niña variability.

<https://www.nature.com/articles/s41558-022-01444-z>





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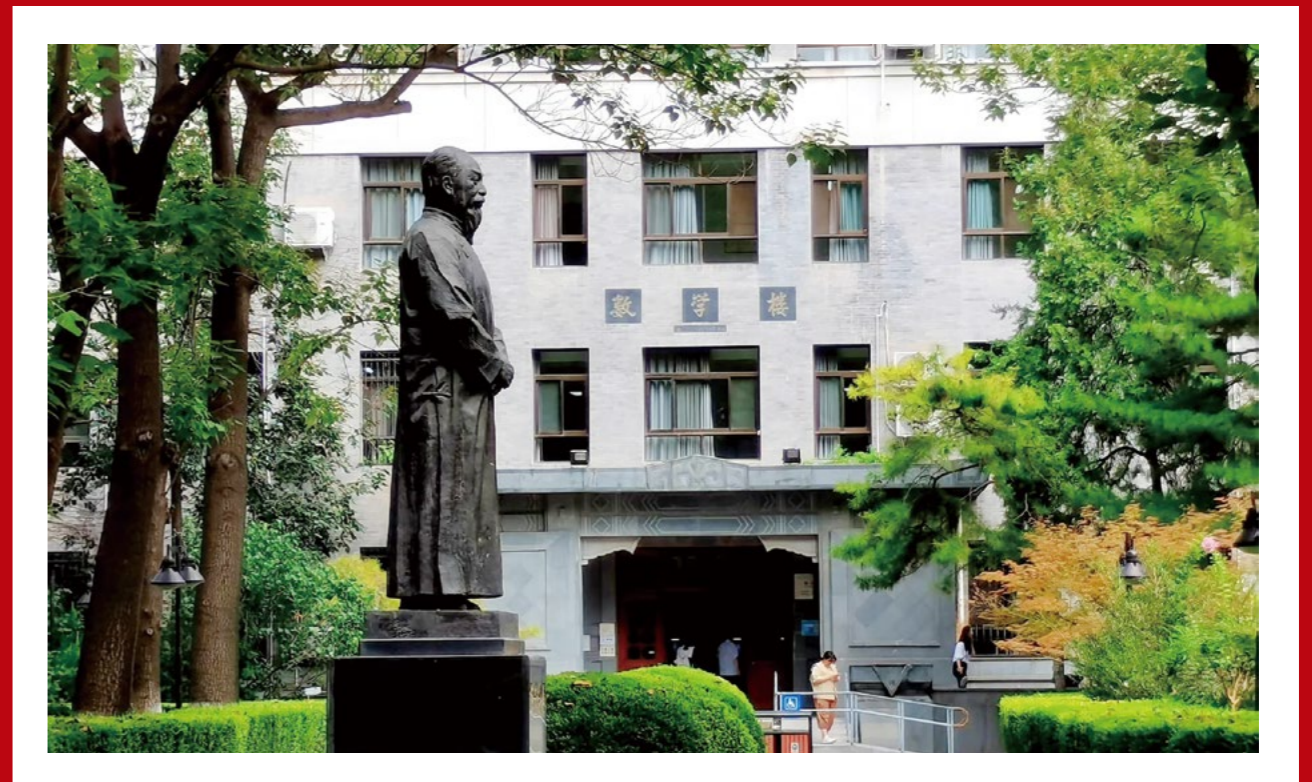


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北京師範大學  
BEIJING NORMAL UNIVERSITY

Office of International Exchange & Cooperation  
Beijing Normal University

**Address:** No.19, Xijiekouwai St, Haidian District,  
Beijing, 100875, P.R.China

**Phone:** (+86) 10-5880-7170

**Fax:** (+86) 10-5880-0823

**Email:** [bnunewsletter@bnu.edu.cn](mailto:bnunewsletter@bnu.edu.cn)